

# E.N.I.G.M.A.

European Numbers Information Gathering and Monitoring  
Association

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EYES ONLY**

**9**

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ENIGMA is the journal of the European Numbers Information Gathering and Monitoring Association.

ENIGMA is a non-profit making association of listeners who monitor and gather information on 'Number Stations' and other related radio transmissions. ENIGMA aims to bring together listeners and enthusiasts and provide quality information on subjects not normally available from main-stream publications.

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Contributions

We appreciate all contributions to the newsletter (including anonymous information). We regret that we are not always able to provide a personal reply but, rest assured, we read and collate all information for present and future use. Questions are answered via our "Letter to ENIGMA" pages. ENIGMA is also a discussion forum and we welcome comments about the newsletter. If you are interested in writing a feature please contact us at the mailing address.

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Acknowledgements

Information in ENIGMA may be reproduced, but please mention ENIGMA and if possible the originator of the article, we would appreciate any cuttings in which ENIGMA is mentioned.

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NEXT ISSUE... The next issue of ENIGMA will be published in LATE - MARCH 1996.

Contribution would be appreciated by SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3rd 1996.

Thank You.

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Cover issue 9

This issue's cover shows a recruitment advertisement for the C.I.A., if you have any others - please send them in !

## Station News and Latest Listening

ALL TIMES ARE UTC (GMT).

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE STATIONS

#### E1) READY READY

Transmissions continue to schedule, all reports appreciated. transmissions repeat on two frequencies at 20 minute intervals.

<p>MON WK 2/4    20.00 4740    04                              20.20 3410    04                              20.40 3910    04</p> <p>TUE WK 1/2    19.00 4740    06                              3    19.20 3910    06                              18.40 3410    06</p> <p>WED WK 1/3    19.00 4740    84                              19.20 3910    84                              19.40 3410    84</p>	<p>MON WK 2/3    21.30 4740    32                              21.50 4460    32                              22.10 4270    32</p> <p>WED WK 1/2    23.00 5235 13                              4    23.20 4740 13                              23.40 4460 13</p>
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#### E3) LINCOLNSHIRE POACHER

Still active between 10.00 & 22.00 transmitting for 45 minutes each hour on 3 simulcast frequencies. The schedule seems to have changed around early September. Frequency use seems more diverse and several old frequencies have been re-activated and new ones also introduced. The early transmissions between 10.00 & 14.00 are no longer confined to the regular 14467 15682 & 16048 outlets.

Jamming seems to have reduced, this may be due to the fact that Iran is under siege from clandestine stations and places a higher priority on blocking those. Recent reports suggest that Iran is jamming some 11 stations on SW, some with new double jammers which attack the incoming signal from both sides of the broadcast frequency.

Active LP frequencies at present are ; 16475 16084 15682 14487 13375 12603 11545 10426 9251 8464 7755 7337 6959 6900 6485 5746 5422.

Some frequencies have only very occasional use, for further details please see letter pages.

#### E4) CHERRY PICKER

LP's distant relative, still active but does not seem to appear every day, although some weekend logs have been reported. Would monitors outside Europe please listen & report signal strength, particularly in the Far East.

11.00	14469 17499 20474
12.00	17499
13.00	14469 17499 20474

### E5 & G5) COUNTING STATIONS

Activity levels are very high, we have have only included logs from the last 3 months in order to give an accurate picture.

Daily 19.00 5153// 7473

MON 18.00 6970// 8143  
MON 18.00 9219// 11491  
MON 21.00 5371  
MON 23.00 7532 GERMAN

TUE 01.00 5046  
TUE 13.00 10520/8014  
TUE 14.00 12221  
TUE 15.00 8085// 10247  
TUE 17.00 6780// 8085  
TUE 18.00 11491//13450  
TUE 22.00 9357 //11072

WED 16.00 9070  
WED 17.00 6780// 8085  
WED 18.00 6970// 8143  
WED 18.00 11491//13450  
WED 21.00 8185// 10162

THU 14.00 12221  
THU 17.00 13444//11072  
THU 18.00 11491//13450  
THU 19.00 9219// 11491  
THU 21.00 5371// 7430  
THU 21.00 8185// 10162

FRI 01.00 4470// 5046  
FRI 07.00 6813// 8070  
FRI 15.00 8085// 10247  
FRI 18.00 11491//13450  
FRI 21.00 6970

SAT 07.00 9070// 11072  
SAT 16.00 16273//18240

SUN 14.00 7469// 12221  
SUN 18.00 6970// 7907  
SUN 18.00 11072//13440

### E6 & E7) ENGLISH MAN ENDS 00000 & 000 000

Please see our feature on the 'Russian Man family' in this issue, further details are given about the possibility of an extended schedule for these transmissions.

### E9) MAGNETIC FIELDS

Transmissions from this station are becoming more erratic, at the time of going to press the station seems to be signing on around 19.00 (changed from 18.00) although some weeks the message is not broadcast and on others it starts up as late as 19.15.

We have had several reports of this station mixing with a broadcast programme. The mix seems to be of Middle Eastern origin, possibly the Voice of Mojahed - a clandestine broadcaster. Station E9 also has a Middle Eastern language numbers (?) format see station V8.

Monday @ 19.00 variable on 6645 - subject to drift.

Messages in English are addressed to 44B or 44D (it is difficult to be certain.

### E10) PHONETIC ALPHABET - NATO (EZI etc.)

This vast network continues to operate between 2 & 19 MHz. Recent changes have included some transmissions in SSB, particularly from CIO. Please see Simon Hason Writes for further information about VLB and our book review page, looking at Mossad operations.

Latest call-signs reported are listed below.

2120	KPA	2270	JSR	2515	KPA	2628	FTJ	2743	ULX	2953	SYN
3150	PCD	3270	KPA	3417	ART	3640	VLB	3840	YHF		
4165	SYN	4270	PCD	4360	MIW	4463	FTJ	4560	SYN	4665	VLB
4880	ULX										
5091	JSR	5170	CIO	5230	SYN	5339	OEM	5437	ART	5629	KPA
5715	ZNL	5820	YHF								
6270	ULX	6370	VLB	6500	PCD	6635	CIO	6657	MIW	6745	CIO
6840	EZI	6911	OEM								
7115	ART	7322	FTJ	7445	KPA	7540	JSR	7607	VLB	7918	YHF
8025	CIO	8127	CIO	8464	MIW	8641	MIW				
9130	EZI	9402	YHF								

10125	CIO	10352	VLB	10680	YHF	10820	YHF	10970	MIW
11565	EZI								
12747	CIO	12950	KPA						
13533	EZI	13921	MIW						
14000	SYN	14530	KPA	14750	MIW				
15980	EZI								
17121	VLB	17170	KPA	17410	EZI	17466	VLB		
19715	EZI								

E11) "OBLIQUE"

This station is one which likes to stay hidden and changes frequency often. At present it can be heard with call 231 at the following times.

1st & 3rd THUR	04.30	6905
1st & 3rd FRI	20.30	4780 (may change to 3060)

Frequencies vary depending on time of year. The 20.30 transmission moves between 3060 4015 4780 and 5050.

E12) N N N

MON	Not found	Repeated	21.00	4644	Would readers please
WED	04.00	5072	Repeated	21.00	4644 re-confirm this
THU	04.00	5821	Repeated	20.00	5821 ✓ schedule.
FRI	04.00	4573	Repeated	21.00	4644

Please send in all reports of N N N.

E14) 4F 'COUNT CONTROL'

Active and operating to following schedules.

00.30	5153	Some transmissions may not be
06.30	7343// 11072//13465	daily.
13.30	11072//13464//15985	
17.30	7343// 11072//13465	

**E15) PHONETIC ALPHABET - pre NATO (NSA etc.)**

Reception of this station is very variable, reader in Finland report very poor reception, the signal seems to improve in Southern Europe and is very strong around Greece and the Near East.

Detailed below are latest schedules.

11.00	18000	BEC	17.00	14000	FYP
12.00	17502	WSU	17.30	5835	MSA
12.30	11170	NSA	18.00	5835	USP
13.00	11000	BEC	19.00	4130	SAR
14.00	14000	FYP	20.00	5530	NAS
16.30	6715	NAS	21.00	4130	MSA

**E16) TWO LETTER (ENGLISH)**

Please see Simon Mason Writes for latest Two Letter schedule.  
An interesting incident occurred on Wednesday 16th August. The call-sign Alpha-Uniform was sent on two frequencies - messages followed in English at 30 minute intervals throughout the evening.

4821//4888	Alpha-Uniform	Time	Call-sign	Group Count
		19.00	702	124
These have not been		19.30	508	107
heard since		20.00	865	117
		20.30	192	105
		21.00	942	109

**E17) ENGLISH LADY 00000 ENDING (274 etc.)**

This station likes to use a random schedule, but does have one regular transmission.

Random logs include	Wed 07.30	7625	Calling ???
	Thur 19.00	12210	Calling 561
	Thur 20.00	10230	Calling 531
	Sat 20.55	4744	Calling 124

Regular transmission- Wed 08.00 9270-9291 variable Calling 274, this is now heard each week with messages. (Not heard 1st Nov.)  
On Wednesday August 30th a strange incident occurred. Expecting the English Lady calling '274' I tuned in as usual at 08.00. To my surprise I heard a Russian Male voice from station S6, the call sign was 'Dva Syem Chetirye' or 274. A message followed in Russian. Perhaps this was the result of some mix up at the station ?

Another unknown station was also monitored on Saturday & Sunday June 3rd and 4th. It has not been heard since, but had the same format ending in 00000.

I heard the English speaking lady (her voice was very similar to the regular station but not quite the same, pronunciation was more 'English') in mid flow on 9345 kHz at 20.10. She ended with the decode key 258 and group count 30, no 00000 ending was sent at this point.

I remained tuned and to my surprise after a 30 second break a Male voice appeared in English calling 169. The decode key was 750 and the group count 25, he ended with 00000.

The following evening I heard the Lady on 9315 again at 20.00 with call 276 decode key 124 and an 80 group message ending 00000. I have not heard either voice since.

**GERMAN LANGUAGE STATIONS**

**G2) SWEDISH RHAPSODY**

This station also seems to be moving towards more transmissions in SSB. The music box just does not sound right! We have attempted to put together a schedule, but, must stress this is far from complete. Swedish Rhapsody operates on a basis that WK 1 starts on the first Saturday regardless of date.

DAY	TIME	FREQUENCY	1	2	3	4	5
MON	21.00	5340	#				
TUE	21.00	5340	#				
TUE	21.30	5340	#				
TUE	23.00	3825	#				
WED	17.00	6200	#		#		
WED	17.30	6200 5748	#		#		
WED	19.00	6200	#				
WED	20.00	5340				#	
WED	22.00	6200			#		
WED	22.00	5340				#	
THU	18.00	4195		#			
THU	20.00	5340		#			
THU	21.00	5340		#			
THU	22.00	5340		#	#		
THU	23.00	3825	#				
SAT	00.00	5340		#			
SAT	09.00	8188				#	
SAT	12.00	8488			#	#	
SAT	22.00	5340	#				
SAT	23.00	5340		#			
SUN	00.00	4779		#			
SUN	00.00	5748			#	#	
SUN	SSB 10.00	8188				#	
SUN	AM 11.00	8188				#	
SUN	12.00	8488	#	#	#	#	
SUN	20.00	3823			#		
SUN	22.00	5340	#	#			
SUN	22.00	3823			#		
SUN	23.00	4779		#			

This is a very incomplete summer schedule!

The use of SSB is very recent & others exist.

Active frequencies are 3825 4195 4779 4832 5340 5748 6200 8188 8488 please send in all reports. Other frequencies may also active. (Message groups are not indicated).

**G4) THREE NOTE ODDITY**

We are still following up information on the location of this station and will be publishing further details in issue 10. Keeping track of 3 Note Oddity is very difficult, the schedule and frequency changes do not help. Detailed below are all the reports we have received in the last few months.

The station seems to keep CET but ALL TIMES SHOWN ARE UTC regardless of transmission. Frequencies change each new month.

DAY	UTC	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN
TUE	19.00	4773	4360	4208					
THU	19.00	4773	4360	4208					
FRI	04.05	6875	6379						
FRI	16.00				7625				
FRI	17.00				5575				
FRI	19.40	5256		5178	4410				
SAT	19.00	4773	4360	4208					
SAT	20.10	7481	6853	6642					4627
	21.10				5817	5329	4276	3940	
SUN	04.10	5166	5166						
	05.10				4063				
	12.10	7568	7481	7736	8752				
	20.10	5281	5422	5233	4485	3471	3352	3268	
	20.35	5181	5320	5135	4385				
	21.35					3389			
	21.10	6547	5718	5617					4126
	22.10				5487	4827	4139	3815	

Frequencies shown for Nov Dec Jan are projected from 1994 logs.

#### G5) COUNTING STATION

Simon Mason informs me that most of G5 - Counting Stations have moved to the middle of the night/early mornings. This station was very active during the Cold War years, but seems to be fairly quiet at present. The station is the German language version of the familiar Counting Station E5 which is very active.

German language MON 23.00 7532

#### G6) GERMAN LADY 00000 ENDING

This station and G7 (German Lady 000 000 ending) are often mixed up when logged, the easy way to tell them apart is ;

G6 -GROUPS ARE ALWAYS PAIRED - ENDS 00000  
 G7 -GROUPS ARE ALWAYS SINGLE - ENDS 000 000 ENDF

G6 uses regular time slots but random frequencies. In winter try:-

MON 19.00 recent id's include 035 324 & 810, remember the groups  
 MON 20.00 are always paired and the station ends 00000.  
 SAT 20.15

Other id's noted in the past are 122 235 569 625 628, This station likes to stay hidden and so logs are as always appreciated.



**G7) GERMAN LADY 000 000 ENDING**

Messages are sent in Single Groups, uses 3 or 4 figure decode key. Each transmission is repeated on 2 further frequencies. Null messages are repeated only once.

Regular messages include ;

TUE	06.30	7378	8178	9278	Call 278 (Off air Nov-March)
THU	06.30	7378	8178	9278	Call 278 (Off air Nov-March)
THU	19.00	13570	12210	8126	Call 723
FRI	18.00	9127	7627	10227	Call 167
FRI	20.00	5127			Call 771
SAT	09.00	13527	11127	9427	Call 621

We have number of logs of G6 & G7 which we cannot positively identify, so please check for double or single groups when reporting, thanks.

**G11) STRICH**

Like its English & Slavic relations the German language transmissions are also rather shy ! Regular transmissions can, however, be heard as follows.

2nd & 4th WED	06.00	6570 or 7580	Call 496
WEEKLY TUE	21.00	4015 or 3820	Call 752
WEEKLY WED	08.30	7841	Call 752

Frequencies vary depending on time of year. The 21.00 transmission moves between 3820 4015 4780 5050.

**G16) GERMAN TWO LETTER STATIONS**

All transmissions start on the hour or half-hour. An electronic tune and two letter spoken identification is sent for 5 minutes. For example "Charlie Delta" or "Golf Kilo".

Simon Mason sends us the latest operating schedules which appear in his feature later in this issue.

Two Letter stations are much less active than in recent years and are now rarely heard in the evenings.

Full frequency lists follow, please report call signs and id's heard.

2690 2707 2745 3228 3262 4543 4594 4821 4888 5015 5182 5732 5770 6765 6853  
7404 7532 7661 7752 7858 8063 8173 9040 9325 9450

10170 10460 10500 10740 11617 11108 11545 12092 12210 12314 13362  
13752 13775 13890 14622 14945 15610 16055 16220 16414 17430 18195  
18575 19295 19755 20240 20350 20675 22885

Simon tells me that regular traffic is now sent during the day on the higher frequencies. Germany no longer needs to communicate with agents in the former DDR and Eastern Europe and most of the call signs which were heard daily until the early 1990's have left the air, as a result most of the low frequencies are now no longer in use.

## SLAVIC STATIONS

### S2) DRUMS & TRUMPETS

This station is still operating on its 9th of each month schedule, regardless of day. It did not appear on August 9th which fell on a Wednesday. The result was the use of the frequency by its sister station Ready Ready !

Monthly 9th of each month regardless of day  
20.30 4740

### S6 & S7) RUSSIAN MAN 00000 & 000 000 ENDING

Please see feature for latest update and regular schedules.

### S8) YT YT YT

The Monday and Wednesday transmission at 19.00 on 4424 ended on July 1st, but may re-activate without warning ( this does happen with this particular station). See M27 in HORSE SECTION.

It was also active on Mondays at 06.30 on 4424 but this has not been noted since September. Please report if heard, thanks.

### S13 & S14) RUSSIAN COUNTING MEN

S13) Russian counting and announcements of 2 minutes duration. The last time I noted this (which is very hard to find) was on Thursday at 20.00 on 3824.

S14) Russian counting and announcements long duration. This was active on 4328 but moved recently to 4040, this can be heard from early afternoon onward with a continuous loop announcement. reception improves with the dark path.

### S11) "PRESKA" & S12) "CHETTA"

Like the English & German language relations these two stations also like to keep a low profile, but S12 "Chetta" has broken with tradition and sent several messages since our last edition.

At the time of writing I have no reports of the "Preska" broadcasts and two sitings of the "Chetta" variant. It should be noted that the English, German & Preska/Chetta set up do not send very often, most transmission are either weekly, fortnightly or monthly and 99% of them last for only 5 minutes per transmission.

"Chetta"	1st & 3rd WED of Month	21.00	4015	Call 971
"Chetta"	1st MON of Month	21.00	4463	Call 755

The call 971 does send messages, these are sent in double groups with the repeat in single groups.

The language cannot be positively identified and two of the numbers are so close as to sound almost the same.

The numbers sound like the following words.

Adínka, Dvoíká, Třoíká, Tchityor'ka, Pityor'ka, Shest, Syin, Vósin, Dyéyit, Noil.

Cheřta - line (stroke) (ЧЕРТА)  
? Veonya - ??  
Vnimaniy - Attention (ВНИМАНИЕ)  
Kanjet - End ( K sound barely audible)

The numbers are spoken quickly and run into each other, two words Tchityor'ka & Petjorka are so close in sound that only a trained ear or native speaker would be able to tell them apart ! This would probably result in a decoding nightmare.

My thanks to Risto in Finland for his help with these words. Comments would be welcome.

#### S16) OLX OLX OLX

At the time of going to press the schedule remained unchanged from issue 8, but changes would seem likely to take account of winter conditions.

DAILY	00.00	to	04.00	5301 8142 12275	Transmissions start on
	05.00	to	08.00	8142 9320 12275	the hour and last about
	09.00	to	16.00	8142 14977 18303	20 minutes.
	17.00	to	20.00	5301 9320 12275	
	21.00	to	22.00	5301 8142 12275	

In previous issues we have reported the address of this station ( the only numbers station in the world to QSL) which is care of the Ministry of the Interior. This seems strange for an operation which sends messages out of the country ! However, recent information received confirms the reasons behind this particular oddity.

The following was received by ENIGMA " The Czech foreign intelligence service actually is the First Section of the Intelligence Directorate of the Ministry of the Interior. But Czech citizens and Western authorities alike commonly refer to it as State Secret Security, Statni Tajna Bezpecnost, or the STB"

#### S17) CZECH LADY "CONTROL" - single 5F message.

Again no changes to this station.

DAILY 13.55 to 14.02 4485//5027

S18/19) CZECH MAN

Very difficult to find random transmissions on odd frequencies, sounds like a rough "gravel" voiced male announcer.

Only one report - heard on September 5th at 22.00 on 4010, ended with Kōnec- then off air. Any reports appreciated.

One interesting note we can make - all the logs over a protracted period seem to be around the end of the month or the first week of a new month, coincidence perhaps ?

S21) RUSSIAN LADY

Recent reports are as follows.

MON	19.45	5290	Call 491
TUE	17.40	5740	Call 342
THU	17.40	5740	Call 342
THU	19.45	5290	Call 491
SAT	08.15	5075	Call 205

The station likes to start at odd times and so we guess that more transmissions are around as yet undiscovered.

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"For D", Re- 6507 kHz, the signal is a channel marker transmitted by the British Royal Naval Coastal Control. It is one of several; this is channel E.

Thank you for your logs. Where possible, please include ENIGMA reference numbers for ease of identification.

GR27 - 25941 27388 33126 88804 26588 87333 64648 85811 88120 52658  
 73883 31126 11881 72626 68941 29433 28688 81268 89881 17388  
 33287 39488 88283 39484 11338 83326 89332 00000

(P.Q. - 493/333/ 0980 3351 6255 0850 2225 1327 3052 0602  
 5489 3414 2195 / -)

494/11 5001 3027 1693 2233 2379 8032 9508 7031 1114  
 8285 9717 3434 / 1

**OTHER LANGUAGES**

**SPANISH**

**V2) SPANISH LADY - TWO FINALS**

We have somewhat neglected Spanish transmissions, but, hope to receive more reports. It would seem that some of the transmissions are from areas other the North & South America. It is important to catch the end of the transmission to identify the stations correctly.

V2 - Spanish Lady - 2 finals (occasionally 3 finals) is quite active and is usually around in the mornings daily. Recent logs include.

TUE	08.00	9260*	FRI	05.00	4050	* simultaneously, 9260
TUE	08.00	7530*	FRI	07.00	7887	with deeper voice, but
						same format.
WED	03.00	6825	SUN	05.00	7725	
WED	04.00	7860	SUN	06.30	6758	
WED	07.00	6797	SUN	07.00	5415	
			SUN	08.00	8186	
THU	07.00	5415				
THU	08.00	6825				

**V6) SPANISH LADY 00000 ENDING**

Still around on Friday & Saturday evenings, strong signal, sends in double groups ending 00000 - likes random frequencies.

Not very active, uses random times and frequencies.

**V7) SPANISH MAN 000 000 ENDING**

This is another of those random stations and like the above, follows the KGB/GRU style of operation, random frequencies and repeat transmissions. Messages are sent in single groups ending 000 000.

Recent logs have included ;

MON	06.00	13540	Call 033
MON & THU	06.00	7495	Call 273
MON & THU		9110	Call 273
WED	13.00	12220	Call 105

Please send in all logs for Spanish speaking stations with as much detail as possible. Includes Call - Decode Key - Double or Single Groups and Ending, plus of course YL/OK. Thanks.

**V8) EASTERN MUSIC STATION (language unidentified).**

This station is a relation of B9 the Magnetic Fields English language operation. We still need a positive identification of the language used by this station.

Transmissions were first noted operating on the 1st Saturday of each month, but in July the station appeared on July 8th (the second Saturday) Like Magnetic Fields it is rather erratic in its behaviour !

I would try the following days and times but suggest you take a flexible approach.

FRI 08.20 11290 These are a guide line, transmissions  
SAT 08.20 11290 may start late or not at all.  
SAT 18.00 6645

11290 transmissions were noted on the second week of the month, while 6645 should be the first Saturday of the month.

\* We had one report only of an Arabic Male in SSB at 13.30 on 14472; can anyone confirm if this still around ?

#### V9) ORIENTAL LANGUAGES

Lots of interest, and I hope you will enjoy another "Looking East" in this issue. I also received a tape recording from Mike in Kent of the "Bright No Ha" station - which I had never heard before.

It is very difficult for European monitors to ID these stations so I will list them as supplied and hand over to our Far East division for help !

MON 20.00 10355 ORIENTAL YL 5F  
MON 21.00 10079 ORIENTAL YL 4F

MON/ 20.00 11028 ORIENTAL YL This gives regular good reception  
SAT calls for 5 minutes then off air.

#### REGULAR - Try Daily

18.00 5738 "BRIGHT NO HA" Calls for 5 minutes -  
19.00 6280 Reception on 5738 is very variable  
20.00 in Europe due to heavy jamming of  
21.00 clandestines.

#### V13) NEW STAR BROADCASTING

Further details and frequencies can be found in our feature "Looking East" in this issue.

15.00 8300 Audible in the UK when conditions are  
22.00 8300 good.

## MORSE STATION NEWS

Keeping up with the ever-increasing amount of Morse numbers traffic is proving a difficult task. The only way we can continue to report fully and accurately on the activity and changes that seem to constantly take place in the shadowy world of Numbers Stations is to work towards using :

1. Dedicated monitors who are familiar with the habits of specific stations - who know exactly what to look for. Intelligent guesswork and even intuition can then reap results, and listening for the more 'difficult' stations then becomes less a matter of pure chance.
2. The use of standardised log sheets specifically geared to particular stations, and their often, seemingly illogical schedules.
3. The use of standardised notation of transmission formats when recording logs - again, these would vary according to the station.

If all this could be achieved - it's up to us here at ENIGMA HQ to work out how we're going to do this - then we would be able to collate incoming logs much more easily, we'd be able to analyse them and publish their results more accurately, and the quality and usefulness of logs received would increase.

All the above applies equally to voice stations, but the need is greater for the morse stations as there are far more of these; they are far more active and yet disproportionately fewer logs of these are received. Logs received don't in any way reflect levels of activity, and this is largely because many of our subscribers are unable to copy morse. (a question on this was accidentally omitted from our questionnaire) This is a pity, as voice activity is, in general, on the decline. Morse is the predominant mode amongst numbers stations and always has been; it is also used almost exclusively by illegals and agents sending their messages back to their home countries - voice is never used. Morse has several advantages over voice: it has a very high immunity to interference and jamming; under poor conditions numbers read out as words can lead to ambiguity creeping in through misreading. Morse is an international language - it doesn't give away the language spoken by its recipients; it is less obtrusive and can 'hide away' more easily in the HF spectrum, especially when high speed keying is used. Lastly, it is the ideal mode for low power suitcase-type sets as transmitters are far less complex and are therefore smaller and more reliable. When properly suppressed against key clicks and harmonics it is far less likely to cause interference to local receivers (and mobile DF units) than R/T modes. It can also be sent from a hotel room, for example, in silence, unlike an agent speaking into a microphone!

Any of our subscribers who feel that Morse numbers stations are boring or irrelevant are mistaken. To newcomers, hearing a voice numbers station for the first time conjures up the

glamour of espionage. However, a meaningless string of dits-and-dahs means but little to the uninitiated. These voiceless, accentless, languageless messages certainly lack the glamour of something like the outrageously obtrusive Tyrolean Musicstation, but we mustn't forget that they make up the bulk of numbers traffic. The glamour is still there, but it is more subtle. Being less obvious, and therefore more secretive, morse is ideally suited for low-tech undercover HF communications.

We must emphasise that ENIGMA exists to investigate ALL numbers related activity, not merely that small, vocal and popular segment which consists of voices reading out numbers. That may have started us all off, but it's only the beginning of the story. If we are to take our subject seriously, then we must avoid restricting it to one small area merely on the grounds of popular appeal - whether it be due to inability to read morse or for any other reason. It is hoped that our reports on Morse stations are read by those unable to read Morse as basically it's all the same subject, and to complete the jigsaw we must have all the pieces. Most operations use both morse and voice modes and voice stations cannot afford to be looked at in isolation. For example, the so-called 'Strich' group uses well over 90% morse transmission, yet the majority of logs we receive would give the opposite impression. Unfortunately, logs received do not accurately reflect activity levels, and this is entirely due to our disorganised and erratic listening habits and personal preferences. Whether you are a hobbyist, a serious investigator or merely curious we all want to break the international conspiracy behind the Numbers Stations - only a professional approach can ever do that.

Now for the news itself!

M1 As predicted, the main network adopted the 463 schedule at 1500 on 2nd September. At 1800 on 2nd November it will change to 197 for the next four months. In August this network's secondary channels were dropped and have not been heard since. Perhaps a more powerful transmitter is now in use - signals seem even stronger. Perhaps they, whoever 'they' are, need their other Tx for other purposes. The secondary networks, 745, 503 & 108 disappeared from their usual slots on 30.9 & 1.10. They may still be around. More on this complex station in the accompanying article. A new secondary transmission was heard at 2010 Saturday on approx 4630 - its ID needs confirming.

M2 As predictable as usual. Winter schedule should begin soon - frequencies will only change slightly. Generally, lower freqs were used this summer than last. As expected, G12 (NNN) showed the same tendency. Always very strong in England.



M3 Message levels are definitely increasing: using similar listening patterns each year these are relative figures -1993: all /00, 1994: 12 (building up in Autumn), 1995 so far: 26 (again, building up in Autumn). The messages themselves strongly favour group counts in the low fifties. Several new ID's have appeared, all conforming to known clusters except 857, however, about a year ago an 'unknown morse station' sending 854/00 was reported. Active freqs since July: 3825 4015 4465 4610 5050 5150 5180 5365 5520 5550 5860 6330 6334 (both of these returned on same morning) 6750 6810 6905 7444. 7580 7710 7841 8033 9180 9950 10540 10720

M4 Still around on 3825 4195 5340. Sorry! Schedule still not ready. Help needed!

OLX As active as ever. Look out for its winter schedule coming up. No changes.

M7 In August the 10 minutes of rapid dashes preceding M10 transmissions became erratic and has effectively now been dropped - for some reason a short burst of dashes still often appears at around 12 mins before start of transmission. The last time I heard M7 was also in August. This may be due to changes in my monitoring pattern and/or change in schedules. On the other hand, if M7 was to also drop its dashes (in line with M10) this would <sup>leave</sup> very little time for tuning in, as M7 only sends one minute of tone sequence followed by a preamble sent once, e.g. 966 966 966 32 32 17 17 = = . No new schedules have been discovered so far, so M7 may have merged with M10.

M8 Regularly heard in the mornings with a strong signal. 3420 6785 7520 7528. Often has a distinctive 'quenched tone' modulation and clicks when key opens. Uses cut numbers, (ANDUWRIGMT) and has been reported by Don Schimmel in his book operating as high as 18434. May be morse version of V2/3.

M10 See M7. Lack of rapid dashes and its habit for commencing at any 10 minute interval, make this one harder to find. Schedules are usually fortnightly, repeating on the following day at the same time, and on the same parallel frequencies. Winter freqs came into operation in September. Amongst others 253 as always can be heard at 0820 Mon/Tues on 8190//7845, 408 & 695 at 0900 on 4485//5301 (Wed/Thur - same weeks as 253). Not yet identified: Mon 1640 on 4485//? to 275 and at least one more. Thur 2020 on 4835//?

M11 Only one report (again! Thanks to Ian in Scotland): 6th September ending at 1448, on 11470. ID missed.

M12 Always seems to be around and often extremely strong. This isn't the place to list its numerous callsigns and schedules. If you can't find this one buy a new Rx - an o-v-o will do!

M13 Message indicators still steadily increasing and close to 160 now. Usually this number increases by one each month and always coincides with a new message.

M14/24 M12 notes above apply equally to this one too.

8BY Still with us. An article will appear when we find the space!

M17 Schedule still not ready. Can anyone find the 2nd repeat for the following transmissions? Wed 0900 7425-6675-???? (ID: 53xxx), Tue 0800 9050-8070-???? (6Qxxx) These may not be weekly. I've checked all known freqs and can't find it anywhere. Either, 2nd repeats aren't being sent or transmissions are beginning 20 minutes earlier (both unlikely) or a yet to be discovered frequency exists.

M20 Last heard around early July. Due to its varied habits it is not always easy to be sure on this one. However, it was very active from 27.3 to 27.6 on its usual freqs: 5540 5625//6520 6918//8307 9285 and a new one, 11325. Use of these freqs, and a few more, help to confirm its identity. May transmit many times daily and never uses ID's.

M21 Still wandering around the 3-7MHz region, sometimes using two parallel freqs. Sends its 14 character "time signal" once a minute, with the occasional short 14f message between. Recent freqs include 3297 3839 4103 4112 4923 5142 5181 & 6966.

4XZ We have received some detailed reports of this station, but haven't yet had time to collate them. We will!

M23 Not heard since January in this form but now I'm certain that it appears in various disguises, M20 being the main one. It clearly has an identity problem, and has odd habits but is quite predictable when it is going through one of its periods of frantic activity. At least it's conservative over frequencies.

KRH family After many years of operating we can now confirm that this large CIA network has closed using morse. It continues using Harris 39, a sophisticated mode of which I know next to nothing - probably from the same sites. I believe its two Oxfordshire long-serving morse operators have found their skills redundant. The question is, why did it use morse for so many years without passing through a RTTY phase?

M26 Instead of the promised review of its entire activity there follow a few examples of its activity in September:  
5.9.95 0835 98 call, 98 Q4133 91111 for 2 mins., 98's again, (0838) 98 Q4133 11116 15 156Q2 (0840) 98 Q4188 18111 (0851) 98 Q4188 12112 (0852) 98 Q4188 15112 (0855) 98 Q4188 10009 (9 5f

groups follow) then 98 Q4188 12191 98 Q4188 12192 98 Q4188 11112 (etc. to 0900)

This was all sent continuously on 5171kHz

7.9 0500 now on 4438: 98 98 466 by 0530: 98 Q4044 11111 11111 (0545) 98 Q4200 11111 81111 (0551) 98 1Q268 11111 81111 (0558) 98 1Q268 11111 91111 (carrier shifts about 500Hz LF for a few seconds).....(0620)98 1Q025 11111 11111 (0625) 98 1Q024 11111 11111 then back to 98 1Q025 etc. By 0805 it was sending 98 Q1444 21112 11111 and was off the air by 0900.

At 2000 on 8.9 it was on 4442kHz sending its never failing 98 followed by Q8Q88 21111 11111.

On 9.9 at 1500 there it was again, this time on 5171 sending 98 Q1888 11111 91111 Between then and 1600 it sent these 'messages': 98 Q1888 11111 51111, 98 Q1100 11111 11111, 98 Q1100 11111 21111, 98 Q1666 11111 21111, 98 Q1666 11118 81111, 98 Q1666 11119 81111, 98 Q1666 11111 91111, 98 Q1666 11111 21111. At 1601 it reappeared on 4442kHz. At one stage for almost an hour only the middle 5f group changed at all, and even then very slightly for the last 4 figures were always 1111. By 1900 it was on 4439//3156kHz (Yes! They have two transmitters!) sending 98 1Q888 31113 11111.

My theories about this bizarre format will have to wait; meanwhile, have you any ideas?

BTV Back to relative sanity, BTV, along with YT have become lazy again. Even the Monday 0600 slot has been inactive for some time. YT is prone to this and has suddenly reappeared again on its usual schedule. There is no correlation between this operation and reported events in former Yugoslavia, despite 'Langley Pearce' and his UDBA. BTV has very recently been heard underneath the new U.S. data transmission on 4756, believed to be coming from Barford St. John.

HEP A dramatic event has recently taken place in the history of this tediously uneventful station. The call is now followed by a figure which changes along with its time-shared frequency-hopping cycle. That crucial figure is 3 for 3314, 5 for 5268, 7 for 6871 and 9 for 9186. It is rumoured that this refers to the fixed service band occupied, to the nearest MHz, but what is the point?

VDE News at last! On Thursday 16th August I logged the first recorded VDE message. It was sending its usual call at 1815 on 6739, and returning to it at 1822 it was sending 5F pairs, ending at 1826 with AR. It reappeared on Tue 19.9 0630 on 6627 with yet another message - 32 groups ending at 0640. Its format has at last been established: VVV VVV VVV DE VDE VDE for 5 mins. then, in this case, = = 73 73 32 32 5 5 Q8Q0 Q8Q0 (then 32 pairs at 7.5 gr/min, short zero) AR

FDC Very active still, with its strange 'messages'. Will be covered more fully when space and time permit. The quantity on

information sent over very long periods, combined with its extravagant use of frequencies make this one of the most apparently inefficient and pointless of stations.

P8K Active sending messages of 5F or 5L daily at 1900 & 2000 on 6960kHz. Keying speeds vary considerably. We hope to publish fuller details of all nos. stations when sufficient background becomes available. Keep sending in your logs. Just because they're not always published doesn't mean that they're not useful in preparing future articles.

M34 A rare capture (thanks to Ian) of the "12345" station. Heard with several short messages on 5th October at 1455 on 5197. Does it run a regular schedule? Could anybody check this?

M35 Still around on random freqs sending its meaningless strings of V's interspersed with K's. Hasn't anybody else heard this oddity?

M39 Another less common station appeared on 10th October at 0800 on 6690. The 3 & 5 figure station appears to be some kind of 'control' transmission as it doesn't send messages in the normal sense, however, it does use an ID, in this case 034.

STATION CHECK LISTS We plan to have these available separately in clearer presentation. Meanwhile here's a couple more:

M42 The 'KUL Brotherhood' (operated by ex-Eastern Bloc/Cuban joint intelligence organisation, SOUD. A vast network.)

M43 6XM8 & C37A Germany/Israel fixed link.

We've decided to include these two, although morse plays only a small part in their operation. Both officially don't exist. Any information on these is especially welcome.

V3 Delete. This is now confirmed as the same station as V2, although they use two voices. The number of 'finals' seems arbitrary.

V15 N. Korean

V16 Chinese 11028kHz

Further additions to the check lists will be included in the next issue - will they ever end?

SLHFB's (MX) - see also later.

"V" 5328 moved to 5274

"R" 4325 but not at present

"D" I thought all these had gone but one recently joined the S & C cluster on 8494 for a while

## STATION FEATURE -

THE "TWO-TONE" STATION (M1) - see also Morse Supplement 2

The term, "two tone" is now something of a misnomer, for transmissions are now only modulated (at a low level) with a single tone of around 2kHz - the carrier is keyed. This change appeared at about the same time as secondary frequencies were dropped from the main network, so the presence of the lower frequency tone could have indicated the use of the lower parallel channel. Many features make this station quite unique, not least being the fact that keying is by hand and probably live. Mistakes are frequent, but always corrected, and at least three individual operators can be identified.

Scheduling is complex, as three separate networks operate, each conforming to different scheduling rules, however they all use the same general format, apart from the main network's "end of month" formats, which will be covered in a following article. If we call these networks A, B & C, A is the main network (which always uses the same three alternating ID's throughout the year - 197 463 025 463); B is the secondary network which consists of regular ID's operating to a regular schedule. C is a network that appears without warning and can easily be confused with M11 - no obvious schedule seems to exist. 'A' always begins on the hour and shows a very strong preference for 40 group messages - varying occasionally between 39 and 42. Networks B & C tend to commence at any 5 minute interval within the hour - it dislikes h+00 and h+30 - it favours 20 and 30 group messages, again, with occasional slight variation. This peculiarity is unique amongst numbers stations. Messages are always sent in all cases (paired random 5fig groups), and repeat transmissions have never been known to occur. Although network A's schedule conforms strictly to month of the year, B changes its schedule unpredictably, as it did between 24th & 29th September.

Network A operates six known transmissions weekly, and ID's change according to which set of schedules are in use at a particular time of year. i.e.

197 November, December, January, February  
463 March, April  
025 May, June, July, August  
463 September, October

The transmissions are as follows:

1 - Sunday 0700	2 - Tuesday 1800	3 - Tuesday 2000
4 - Thursday 1800	5 - Thursday 2000	6 - Saturday 1500

"197" Frequencies: 1 - 6280//5465 2 & 4 - 5320//4630  
 3 & 5 - 4490//3868 6 - 5810//6810  
 "463" Frequencies: 1 - 7434//6508 2 & 4 - 5474//4857  
 3 & 5 - 5017//4155 6 - 6261//51??  
 "025" Frequencies: 1 - 7340//6780 2 & 4 - 5280//4514  
 3 & 5 - 4905//3957 6 - 6434//5390

• Transmissions 4, 5 & 6 usually operate the "end of month" format, always on last Thursdays and Saturdays of each month. Although, at present, only twelve of these 24 frequencies are in use, parallel freqs are shown as they could return in the future. These same ID's and freqs have been used since the late 1970's, at least.

Network B, too, seems to have been around for a long time. It never used parallel frequencies and is quite independant of the other two networks. This year, until week commencing Sat 29 Sept it operated the following schedule:-

"108" Sunday 0835 5885 Usual Group count: 30  
 "150" Tues/Thur 1705 6780 UGC: 20  
 "913" Tues/Wed 2010 4647 UGC: 20  
 "510" 1910 floating between Thu & Sun! 5250 UGC: 30  
 "053" Sat 1605 5350 UGC: 30  
 "745" Sat 1510 5475 UGC: 30

More exist, some of which could be C's. There is scope for much more research on this station - volunteers welcome!  
 \*\*\*\*\*

SLHFB News (MX) - continued

As usual, we are getting nowhere fast with these. They remain as mysterious and inscrutable as they were in the 1960's. All kinds of wild theories abound, (especially from U.S.A.) but none sound very convincing. Activity is much the same as always, with the regulars still going strong, and the sporadics still popping up from time to time.

"C" & "S" moved a few months ago from 5306 to 5154 - all their other frequencies remain the same.  
 "R" moved from 7452 to 3323 quite a while ago now; still//3196  
 "L" still on 3091 with its bad chirp!  
 "V" still on 3174, however, a new one is now on 5274, and like most V's has irregular spacing. Only the V's exhibit this peculiarity, and another one is the occasional tendency to modify the sending of the V. A couple of years ago, on 9162 V became ...-. for a while, several times for hours on end. Recently, V on 5274 has sent H or 5. Is this deliberate? The regular-spaced V on 3174 always remains the same.

Sporadic solitary SLHFM's include: S 6572; C 6966, 5862; P (the commonest, usually for 5 mins on the hour) 5862, 6872, 6966, 4080, 3170, 3838//3806

## STATION FEATURE -

### M32 - THE 14403 NETWORK

In November 1994 we received the most detailed logs to date of a single station - amounting to 48 A4 size pages! (many thanks to Walt in Hull) Covering the period 24.9.94 to 27.10.94 (with gaps) the logs were compiled between 0535 & 0930. The network involved included 50 different 4-character callsigns, eleven of which were constantly calling the remaining 38. Over this period only 20 actual messages were received and have all been recorded in full. I have found that analysing these extensive logs has been a long but fascinating exercise.

In this article I propose to cover the general structure of the network, including its callsigns, leaving the messages proper for the next issue.

All transmissions were on a single frequency of 14403kHz and were sent in hand-keyed morse at speeds varying from 3 to 25 w.p.m. Figures and letters were sent, including umlaut A, O and U, and also the CH (i.e. 4 dashes). This may or may not indicate a German origin.

Transmissions consisted of particular callsigns calling another, but different set of callsigns - 'callers' never called other 'callers', nor did those called ever call one another. Often calls were repeated many times, but replies were never heard on this frequency. These calls were often accompanied by short instructions, which took the form of Q and Z codes. Most of these codes are unlisted in standard lists, and of those that were, several were unlikely to refer to the conventional meanings. e.g. QBE? - are you winding in your aerial! For others, their normally accepted meanings could not have applied in the particular context in which they were used. Here's a list of all the codes used: (could anyone help us on these?)

QRJ QSV QCM QTC QYT QSW QJG QTA QWP QLK QLX QRR QDKB QSA QBE  
QRK ZWW QRQ QSVC ZBC ZBY ZRC QTA QBE ZZA ZRD QMO ZIC ZLX QSD  
ZOX ZBK ZRJ ZOL ZVL ZNM ZMU ZPD ZOZ ZVD ZCW ZCU ZGI ZKA ZOB  
ZAX QYD ZKH ZGT ZRP ZHG QCZ ZIC ZVT ZYH ZFP ZFR ZIX ZGW ZFPP  
ZIV ZII QSVC (in order first reported). QYT, QRJ, QSW, QRR, QSA  
were always followed by single figures. e.g. QRJ4 officially  
this would mean "I have 4 R/T calls to book". QSA2C also  
cropped up. Other procedural signals used included RPT RK BK  
= OK K RB1T ASNO ANSO CASK. The twenty actual messages were  
all preceded by QTC K (I have message for you), however the  
8th message was preceded by several calls of NSMC NSMC NSMC DE  
ZYDR ZYDR QTC NGE K

Over the period monitored, eight callers operated until 20th October. These were: HRHG SGMG L97M LP9R 81C5 ZYDR Z1C5 BXWZ. Of these, HRHG and ZYDR made the majority of calls, yet by 30.9 HRHG had sent its last call. ZYDR predominated from then until 20.10. From 21.10, an entirely new set of callers took over: KGA7 (predominant) C7LN and L8JU. At the same time a whole new set of callsigns replaced those that were being called by the first eight callers. Monitoring finished six days later.

Numbering the callers from 1-11 (HRHG-L8JU in the order given above), the following table lists the 38 called stations, in order first reported, and their associated callers. It does not include the number of separate occasions that calls were made.

CM1U - 1,4	GD7U - 1	L22Y - 1	(read from left to right)
ZAND - 1	W6NC - 1,2	7WFK - 1,2	
W7NC - 2	P20X - 1	7FM5 - 1,2	
LWQV - 1	5ZLN - 1	3IDV - 1	
ZQWF - 3	PLGW - 3	NJG5 - 3	
WEOA - 3	6RPZ - 6,8	VYB7 - 5	
OR1Z - 6	NSMC - 5,6	MSLW - 6	
VWB7 - 5,6,7,8	S4NA - 6	7AD3 - 6	
WLHN - *	N23K - 6	7AD3 - 8 New set follows:-	
BZ3G - 9,10	YEF2 - 9,10,11	X3Z1 - 10	
VQMI - 10	WBNI - 10	GWKD - 10	WOVP - 10
7G2K - 10	F9XA - 10	K7G2 - 10	(not same as 7G2K!)

\* WLHN may not be a callsign, and appears only in the following uncharacteristic extract:

```
VVV VV V VV ..... (error signal)
XXXXXX WLHN WLHN 34678 DIPASFEN 5983 5918 XXXXXX WLHN WLHN
34678 DIPASFEN 5983 5918 K This was followed by:
VVVVV..... 6RPZ 6RPZ 6RPZ DE ZYDR ZYDR K etc.
```

Callsigns are not entirely randomly composed as they never contain more than two figures and there seems to be a preference for certain letters. Their structure is the same as that of the so-called Non-commercial Beacons and this station could be an example of a particularly busy one. These can be found all over the HF spectrum but are very rarely reported to ENIGMA. In the next issue we will devote a further article on M32 to the structure of the messages themselves.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 MORSE FORMAT CHART No2 has had to be postponed until the next issue. We apologise for this delay. There was also a mistake at the very end: M12 actually uses a 3 OR 4 figure decode key, not 2 or 3 as stated, as also does its voice counterparts. Sorry, entirely my fault - M.G.



## Letters to E.N.I.G.M.A.

A very warm welcome to issue 9. Let me start by thanking all our readers who sent in contributions to the newsletter. Also, may we take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy new year for 1996.

We have had a very good response to issue 8 and a great deal of feedback, so much so that it is difficult to know where to begin.

Our opening letters concern sites, and we start with Harold in Southampton. He tells us that he has recently finished reading a book about the German secret wartime radio beams which were used to guide their bombers to their targets in Britain. These beams were of course highly secret at the time and went under the name Knickebein.

One of the transmitter sites was located at Bredstedt Husum, near Schleswig in Schleswig Holstein whose co-ordinates are  $54^{\circ} 39' N$  &  $8^{\circ} 57' E$ . This is a site we have mentioned in previous issues as the home of the numbers station DEA47. In its day it was a huge place, with enormous rectangular aerials on rotating steel platforms.

A further transmitting site for the German wartime beams was located at Kleve (we spell it Cleve for some reason, but it is famous for Ann of Cleves) and I wondered if it too might still be operational for number broadcasts. It's certainly a possibility. This is very close to the Dutch border at Nijmegen at  $51^{\circ} 47' 5'' N$  and  $6^{\circ} 6' E$ .

Staying on the subject of sites in Germany, Fritz writes from Switzerland with a few remarks concerning Mike's article on the BND sites in Germany.

- Kreuzholzhausen is situated about 23 km NW of Munich.
- + - Stockdorf perhaps should read Stockelsdorf, 5km W of Lubeck ( a place which would make sense anyway).
- Rosenheim is about 50km SW of Munich.
- If Maising, which I could not find anywhere, would read Maisach, it again would make sense, as it is very close to Kreuzholzhausen. #
- And just to be very accurate : it is "Tutzing" and "Heimerzheim."

+ However, Stockdorf itself does exist - whereabouts is it ?

# This may be connected with a larger site to the SW (across the E52) at Überacker. Ed notes.

Fritz also asks about a morse net with the callsign WZD. He tells us that he believes it was an airborne guidance system of the former DDR. But it is still alive and well and shows up in many variants: USB, Baudot 50, CW with varying length of groups and is always very fast. Fritz would like to know more about WZD, which has been on the air since the early 1970's. Can you help ?

Fritz ends by telling us that the suspect HEP is officially located 90km from his QTH near Zurich and gives S9+10dB. We are still very keen to obtain more information about the purpose and location of HEP.

**ACHTUNG!ACHTUNG!- KGB's Fifth Man is Dead.**

John Cairncross, the wartime spy known as the Fifth Man, has died at 82. He admitted four years ago that he was the missing link in the notorious KGB spy ring of Kim Philby, Guy Burgess, Donald Maclean and Anthony Blunt.

Cairncross was the last survivor of the group known as The Five, who were recruited as KGB agents at Cambridge in the 1930s. During World War II he passed British military intelligence about Germany to the Russians.

He died yesterday (Oct 8th 1995) at the West Country cottage he shared with his 39 year old American wife Gayle Brinkerhoff.

Spy writer Nigel West, Tory MP Rupert Allason, had been editing Cairncross's memoirs. He described his death as 'the end of an era in espionage' ENDE ENDE. Daily Mail 9th October 1995.

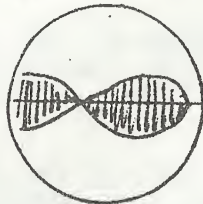
Ian in Perthshire asks a very interesting question and one which should open up further discussion. How do agents send signals back to base? I don't have a great deal in the way of answers on this one, but with the huge volume of 'blind' (one-way) traffic sent each day the agents or persons receiving the messages must use some methods to either confirm safe receipt of information sent by the numbers station or indeed send actual coded messages back.

In his book *Intercepting Number Stations*, Langley Pierce mentions the use of burst transmitters. These use a system of keying the morse message onto a punched tape operated auto-keyer and then sending the message back by playing the tape at a very high speed. The 'HQ' know the time and frequency of the burst of transmission and record the message, this is then slowed down to normal speed and decoded. Burst transmissions are also sometimes referred to as squirt transmissions.

Another possible method is to simply send the message back in morse at a pre-determined time and frequency, this would still be coded into 5F groups of numbers or letters. The only problem with doing this on a regular basis is that you would attract attention from opposing organisations who may attempt to track you down. It is not uncommon on SW to hear hand-keyed morse sending short transmissions consisting of numbers.

And on the subject of taking bearings on a very brief signal, the following information was received from an ENIGMA member. He tells us, 'we had an experimental direction finding site at Pailton (now a CAA monitoring station) an off-shoot of nearby RAF Newbold Revel. The question arose on how to take bearings of a very brief signal, such as from a U-boat under certain circumstances. We used an Adcock antenna system coupled to a standard (Maconi) goniometer. An electric motor was coupled to the gonio rotor and a small bar magnet attached to the edge of the rotor.'

An electromagnet was attached to the casing so that when the fixed magnet swept past the electromagnet, a pulse resulted that acted as a trigger to set off a horizontal sweep of a twin beam oscilloscope with a bit of persistence on its trace. Beam No.2 was just calibrated from 0-180 degrees. The audio signal from the receiver with BFO on was fed to beam No.1 and the result was a trace of the bearing, like -



It was interesting on short wave with the distorting effects of phase fading, scatter etc. The gonio was later superseded with a four-valve switching RF amplifier coupled to four Adcock antennas.

On the subject of whether one transmitter was being used for other purposes, that was determined by feeding the audio signal from the receiver to the vertical trace of an oscilloscope (the horizontal trace was not used). A camera was attached to the scope face and 35mm film run (smoothly, not by frames) across the signal. The resulting film then showed (ideally) an oblong for a dash and a square for a dot. But individual transmitters had their own characteristics - perhaps a small spark when the key was closed - that showed up as a ripple ; or maybe when the key was lifted the signal had a bit of a trail and so on.

Thus one could sometimes find a German transmitter on an Italian sub by the pattern ; or see when the transmitter had been maintained or altered. If the film was of any length it could be used for identifying the operator.

Staying on a similar subject, a new member of ENIGMA from Cheshire sent us some interesting information concerning the Lincolnshire Poacher station. He has studied the station for some years and has used a spectrum analyser to study the signal. One conclusion reached is that two different transmitters may operate on the 14487 kHz frequency, each transmitter having its own signature and therefore individually identifiable.

He goes onto inform ENIGMA that although there is a standard 200 groups in all transmissions, these are sometimes broken by groups such as 00004 & 09000 which may indicate an "end of message" point. Based on this he informs us that traffic seems to increase at times of UK Government international crisis, but, more specifically at different times or places of problems.

For example :- During the 'preamble' to the Gulf war the LP. station increased traffic but not during the collapse of Eastern Germany.

Staying on the subject of Lincolnshire Poacher, Andreas in Germany sent us the results of further studies.

In issue 8 of ENIGMA we showed a matrix of the message groups used by Lincolnshire Poacher; this was based on monitoring the 5F ID number sent prior to the start of each transmission. The matrix displayed the way each message group is sent across the period Monday to Sunday and how many times it is transmitted between 10.00 & 22.00.

Taking this a step further, Andreas has married up the first matrix with frequency usage and this shows that what appears to be a random selection of 3 frequencies from a potential usage list around 20 is in fact far from the case. Each message group (e.g. A to I) do in fact follow a complex frequency usage pattern, which is directly linked to the message group been sent.

For example if we take message F only it looks like this :

MON 14.00	14487//12603//10426
TUE 15.00	10426// 8464// 7755
WED 16.00	10426// 7755// 6485
THU 17.00	8464// 6485// 5422
FRI 18.00	8464// 6485// 5422
SAT 19.00	8464// 6485// 5422
SUN 22.00	

'G' schedule differs from all others.

You can see from this just how complicated the operation is. First messages are broken down into 9 (5F) ID's; from this they are given a sliding-scale style schedule and then to further complicate matters the frequency usage is phased into the sliding-scale schedule.

Andreas sent us a great deal of information and included various comments on the stations he hears. He joins us in the debate concerning the location of Swedish Rhapsody. We mentioned in our last issue that this station has proved very elusive and little or no firm information has come to light on its origins. Langley Pierce stated in his book that Swedish Rhapsody was transmitted from Austria, although we respect his comments ENIGMA believes the station is in fact located in Poland, a view which Andreas shares. Information we received from one of our contacts also firmly follows the Polish line of enquiry.

Andreas also mentions the 3 Note Station - which he tells me is enough to make him afraid - even through the radio! He says that the 3 notes are not the same as the "Kein Anschluss unter diester Nummer" announcement in the German telephone network, as reported in issue 4 of ENIGMA.

Finally, he tells us about an article he recently came across in an old edition of "Taz-die Tageszeitung" from 1992. The feature concerned the Voice of America.

" Sometimes the government used the station (VoA) for secret service projects. In 1986, when the Iran-Contra Scandal (the US supplied weapons to Iran) was the main topic, an editorial was arranged with the Iranian weapons dealer prior to broadcast, this was to prove that their US counterparts really did work under US government instructions.

A Georgian language service announcer was sacked in 1985 after he complained about the fact, that he had to play Georgian folk songs in a rock music programme by command".

Greetings now to John Griffiths, 'Scanning' columnist at the 'Short Wave Magazine'. He sends us some news via Tim in East Sussex and Hans in Germany. The information concerns low band VHF and a transmission heard at 14.00 UTC on 25th May, the frequency 47.170 MHz FM.

The station was heard in East Sussex sending words like "Hotosh, Karnosh, Bedash, Kneedash, Nullash, Uttush, Kilntash, Hadash, Harmush," and continued repetitively. A query on amateur packet elicited the response from Hans in Germany that this is a numbers station broadcast by the Hungarians and audible in Germany. Tim asks whether VHF activity is a new slant as numbers have been traditionally associated with short wave.

Given the nature of E's travel distance, perhaps other members of ENIGMA might like to try around the frequency.

We would welcome any comments concerning numbers transmissions heard outside the normal short wave bands; which leads me from FM to Television. Yes, you did read that correctly. Dave in Shropshire sent us several clippings from the June and August issues of 'Television Magazine' :-

"Mystery morse signals heard by several enthusiasts via various satellites, particularly PAS-1 at 45° W, were mentioned recently in this column. Len Wooley (Bude) tells us he has received them via Eutelsat and Intelsat craft and that they are used for identification purposes. With these craft they consist of similar length groups of numbers followed by a unique label, 'PSSI STAR' with Intelsat and 'STI KU2' with Eutelsat. They are mentioned in the World Satellite Almanac".

"Roy Carman (Reigate) has queried the morse (CW) signals carried by PAS-1. John Locker checked this out and found the feed coded "GE VVES NJ WB" followed by a string of numbers. It's thought that this is a coded weather broadcast originating from New Jersey. Morse has also been noted at times via Orion".

Well, interesting comments, - coded weather, and identification purposes - the technology may have changed but the excuses seem rather familiar ! - comments as always very welcome.

A quick hello to our good friend Geoff in Bridgend. He mentions that MPL at 13.20 on 10180 now seems to have disappeared. Anyone heard it elsewhere ?

Please remember to send in your contributions, letters and logs to arrive by February 3th 1996.

Our address is: ENIGMA NEWSLETTER,  
17-21 Chapel Street,  
Bradford, West Yorkshire,  
BD1 5DT ENGLAND.

And greetings also to regular contributors, Alan in Solihull West Midlands, Jacques in Amstelveen, Marcel in France, Mr T.N.Joy in Kerala India, and everyone else who has taken the time to write to us.

Greeting now to Risto in Finland, <sup>who</sup> sent in a fine selection of logs and information. He replied to our requests for historical information about the Alpha-Phonetic stations and reports hearing KZI in 1979, KPA was the second station to be noted in 1980/82 and noted other call-signs appearing one by one during the 1980's. FTJ was the newest station to appear and was first heard in 1990/91.

Risto also mentions that FLU was heard with messages in the early 1980's but no longer seems to be active. Listening in Finland seems to give different reception conditions to those in the United Kingdom. The Russian Counting Station (S14) - this takes the form of a continuous loop which plays for hours on end - was noted in Finland as early as 14.30 UTC on 4328 kHz, this signal does not usually reach the UK until the dark path in the early evening. Readers may note that the loop tape can now be heard read by either a male or female, at the time of going to press it was noted on new frequency 4040 kHz.

Risto also reports good reception of the 'Chetta' station (S12) which is at present operating on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 21.00 UTC on 5180 kHz. Unlike its other voice counterparts this particular one does carry messages occasionally.

Please see station news for a full list of the numbers spoken by this station, comments welcome.

Geoff in Wymondham, Norfolk asks if we know of any cassette tapes of various computer & RTTY tone signals which can be used for fast identification, Can any readers help? I am only aware of two myself, the first is the Audio Guide to Shortwave Sounds from Interproducts which was featured on page 35 of issue 8; also there is a very comprehensive CD of modulation types produced by Joerg Klingenfuss.

I will quote from the publicity handout, " This unequalled product is based on 25 years of experience in the radio monitoring and publishing field. Two standard audio compact discs running 2.5 hours cover a total of 71 electromagnetic emissions. Compiled from Digital Audio Tape (DAT) recordings made recently by a professional monitoring service in Europe; these CDs allow rapid access to the typical sound of all conventional and exotic radio communication systems found nowadays on shortwave.

Connect your CD player to state-of-the-art decoding hard and software such as UNIVERSAL and WAVECOM teleprinter decoders and practice tuning these professional teleprinter and radio paging systems for easy analysis and display. Synchronization is perfect as a result of digital recording techniques that prevent any play-back speed deviations normally experienced with analogue recordings such as compact cassettes".

If any readers would like more information the address of Klingenfuss Publications is ; Hagenloher Str.14, D-72070 Tuebingen Germany. Phone + + 49 7071 62830 or Fax + + 49 7071 600849. I am not aware of any UK distribution for the product, but if anyone is, we will be very happy to publish details in our next issue. Thanks.

Hallo now to regular contributor, Peter in Saffron Walden. Peter reports heavy traffic from the English language counting stations (Cynthia) which is busier now than for some time. The result of all these extra transmissions seem to have put pressure on the systems and quite a few mistakes have taken place.

Recent problems include sudden off air endings, resulting in the whole transmission having to start again (even though it had been running for 20 minutes); on other occasions the warm up has continued well past the hour with messages starting at 25 minutes past the hour!

Another strange event occurred on July 2nd; Cynthia was weak during the warm up on 9070 kHz at 16.08, but on the same frequency and quite strong I could hear two BBC transmissions mixing with each other, one was the World Service and the other was an "English By Radio" transmission which the BBC broadcasts for those learning English. Both of these have strong outlets in the 31m BC band, a few hundred kHz up the band. I am sure this was not due to a problem with my receiver front end - I found the same effect on my Lowe HF125 and also on a one valve receiver.

Also, there was another mishap in this transmission. During the warm up the "call 275" stopped on several occasions with the tones and "count" 63 not starting until 16.17. The same effect of transmitter mixing on 9070 kHz was also noted on the July 30th transmission.

Traffic seems to have increased considerably from around April 20th following the bomb explosion in the United States.

Quick note to Richard in Buckinghamshire. Thank you for your recent contributions - these will be held over to our next issue.

Mike in Kent regularly sends in "heaps" of logs and comments and most recently some cassette tapes of both number stations and odd noises he has heard. Thank you for all your contributions, which are really appreciated. Mike also noted considerable increases in traffic around April 20th from the Counting Stations and also the Alpha Phonetic set up, even CIO burst into life with a 12 group message.

More recently Mike comments on further increases in traffic levels from Alpha - Phonetic stations around the time of the defections of high ranking officials from Iraq to Jordan.

Mike also comments on our section "Things That Go Buzz", and has been working on some of the signals we mentioned - using a spectrum analyser on such things as the Crackle and our now famous Faders!

Staying on the subject of the Middle East, Brian in West Sussex writes our book review for this issue. "By Way of Deception" tells the story of the "Making and unmasking of a MOSSAD Officer". Brian is also on the trail of the faders and mentions another signal which readers may have come across.

Brian says - 'when I first read your description of the faders, I was thinking of a slightly different signal I had heard on the bands, which consists of a similar signal.

This is of a shorter duration which appears to fade in strength, but in fact is moving down the band about 2 kHz at a time in switched steps.

The sound is similar to that made by a grasshopper/cricket and has a slower, harsher note than that of a fader. The signal appears to have "phase" - like the effect used on late 60's-70's pop records. The signal will be transmitted on 9428, then appears to suddenly drop in volume. Retuning the receiver however reveals that the signal has jumped up or down the band. The move will be exactly 1,2,3 or 4 kHz from the original frequency.

This sequence is then repeated, with the signal jumping to either another new frequency, or returning to its original frequency."

Brian monitored the station on 6 August at 23.45 UTC The following frequencies were used.

9428 - 9432 - 9430 - 9428 - 9432 - 9428 Any readers  
9425 - 9422 - 9426 - 9425 - 9422 - 9426 comments welcome.

Thank you, Brian, for all your regular contributions and logs.

Hello to Hans- in Trier, Germany. Hans mentions the use of 4740 kHz for the regular Ready Ready voice and MCW transmissions plus Drums & Trumpets station, in recent months this frequency has become crowded with the use of 4739 kHz by RAF Volmet Air Radio, which moved to this frequency earlier in the year.

However in September RAF Volmet moved again, this time to 4715 kHz; can any readers explain the move?( could it be due to interference?). At least the numbers transmissions are fairly clear again !

On the subject of numbers transmissions and interference - some stations seem to use regular frequencies for years on end (Swedish Rhapsody) while others seem to use more random selections (3-Note Oddity). Two readers reported the same incident recently; Mike in Kent and Mike in Avon both told us about a recent 3 - Note Oddity transmission.

The transmission on 5617 (August, 21.10 UTC) was causing problems for air radio traffic, one user referred to her (3 Note Oddity) as that "bloody woman". I have also heard HKE30 Berne radio bleeping the regular transmission from "Magnetic Fields" on 6645 kHz, needless to say she did not move !

That's all for this time round. Remember, we appreciate your letters comments and logs for ENIGMA which should be sent to our mailing address.

THANK YOU & PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH - THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER .....

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It is with regret that we must report the death of Den Baverstock of Patcham Brighton. Den was a regular contributor to ENIGMA and keen numbers station monitor.  
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## Things That Go Buzz In The Night

Welcome along to another of our pages, lots of the old friends are still around but a few new ones have appeared to keep the company. Without doubt our all time favourite is the Buzzer on 4625 kHz. In the last issue we appealed for more information and in addition I also wrote a short piece about it in reply to a question in "Communication" journal of the British DX Club.

### THE BUZZER

Just after this appeared more information arrived, I should really go back to the Cold War days when I had some information that the Buzzer was transmitted from an area just outside the Polish border in White Russia. Last year while speaking to Simon Mason, he informed me that a reliable contact (who will remain very nameless) had told Simon that the transmitter was situated to the South East of Moscow, this information had been obtained using some equipment not available to the likes of you and I !

In the last few weeks we have received further confirmation which backs up the information Simon had received. The transmitter would seem to be situated in an area between Moscow and the town of Penza which is about 300 mile south east of Moscow.

If you look on a map you will find Minsk (capital of White Russia) Moscow and Penza form a triangle (this will help you to find Penza).

We are still uncertain if more than one location is used (two transmitters do operate) but we are beginning to make some progress on this particular Buzz !

Just before going to press we have noted the Buzzer making a few strange noises on 4625 kHz, on odd occasions\* the signal seems to dramatically change from its regular tone into a more random buzz - this lasts for a few minutes before the resumption of "normal service". Please report if you hear anything odd ! \* On the hour.

### THE PIP

Another old friend is still active on 3757 kHz and 5450 kHz. 3757 kHz is allocated to Amateur & Fixed/Maritime services, last issue we asked if any readers were in fact involved in the RSGB Intruder Watch - not only did we receive a reply, but it was from the man that runs it, Chris Cummings in Cheshire. Perhaps you could help us with some of our Buzz items.

### THE ECHO

This seems to have reappeared after an absence from the air and can now be heard most evenings on 4105 kHz, signal strength is variable.

### THE BACKWARD MUSIC STATION

This is very active at present and recent evening frequencies have included 6695 kHz & 6755 kHz, both carrying different signals. Recently we noted 3 transmitters operating at the same time sending different signals.

In the last issue of *ENIGMA* we asked if this station may have any connection with a system called Lincompex, we received the following very detailed reply from Richard in Andover.

Lincompex is an abbreviation for *LINEar COMPression & EXpansion*. It processes the signal at an audio level. An audio in-band carrier at about 3 kHz is frequency modulated at a rate dependant on the amplitude level of the signal.

The signal itself is then passed through a limiter, compressing its amplitude variations. This has the advantage that the transmitter can be run at a more efficient level, and that the received signal at the distant terminal can be limited, thus reducing impulse noise etc.

At the receive terminal the 3 kHz carrier is filtered out, passed through a discriminator and amplified. This signal is then used to control a variable gain amplifier through which the incoming audio is routed. This restores the original amplitude variations. The 3 kHz carrier has been filtered out and this small gap in the audio does not degrade it to any appreciable amount.

The system has been in use commercially and on the Defence Communication Network. A typical DCN ISB signal on the HF band may have Multi channel voice frequency telegraph data on the USB and a speech channel on the LSB. In recent years speech is less likely to be heard on DCN, the security of satellite being preferred. Other methods to digitise the speech to 2400 baud bit stream, encrypt it, demultiplex it to a number of slower baud rate channels suitable for transmission on HF.

Well, I am not certain what the Backward Music Station is, but it more often than not sounds like feedback from some Arabic radio telephone station?! More information as always appreciated.

#### **THE CLICKER**

This is a new sound to these pages, but like most odd things is rather random in nature, I have heard it recently on 4515, 5001 & 6758 kHz. It makes a strong clicking sound, the sound is similar to that made by some computer keypads, which click to confirm a depression of a key as been registered. Goes on for hours, - try evenings. Frequency choice may be random.

#### **THE CRACKLE**

After a period of silence this seems to be active again around 5494 and 5505 kHz near Shannon Volmet station. Try evenings.

#### **THE GRASSHOPPER**

Please see our Letters Page for full details, this signal moves at 2, 3 or 4 kHz steps. Heard around 9428 kHz late evenings.

We would very much appreciate comments logs and information concerning items featured in our *BUZZ* pages, I hope you enjoy our feature on *Faders* which appears on the following pages. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this section.

### FADERS(XF)

You may have read in a previous issue or two of 'Buzz' my fascination with these odd sounds - which we have entitled Faders. My previous attempts to describe them seem to have been unsuccessful !

But, not down-hearted I shall try again.

My best suggestion is to check out all the frequencies I have given and then try and find the common signal.

How do Faders behave ? Well here are a few tips.

- 1) They are on and off air very often.
- 2) They vary in length from a few bursts of 8.5 seconds to transmissions which can last at least 30 minutes.
- 3) Faders are transmitted in FM mode - and therefore sound very rough in nature.
- 4) Faders glitch every 8.5 seconds throughout a transmission and once you recognise the mode you will find them on lots of frequencies.
- 5) They are called Faders because they fade to a lower signal strength and then reappear again.

The following is a list of all the frequencies I have monitored since the last issue of ENIGMA.

3190	4020	5095	6507	7498	8055	9125	10480	11102	<b>13340</b>
3211	4048	5107	6797			9245			
3297	4460	5145	6826						
3820	4477	5315	6878						
3827	4495	5330	6940						
	4563	5470	6990						
	4845	5648							
	4935	5789							
	4945	5847							

How do we know that Faders are not just another noise which is from a recognised transmission mode? Well, they do not appear on The Audio Guide to Short Wave Sounds and they are also absent from the Klingenfuss Compact Disc of Modulation Types, which contains 71 electromagnetic emissions and is based on 25 years of monitoring experience.

This evidence would therefore suggest that they are either a mode which is considered 'secret' or they are some form of transmission which has eluded the previously authorities on the subject!

When am I likely to hear Faders? They seem to be active for most of the time. I have heard them in the mornings in the 6, 9 & 11 MHz regions, they also appear in the afternoon and right throughout the evenings into the night on the whole range of frequencies, some for short periods and others for much more lengthy transmissions.

Due to the 8.5 second 'glitch' in every transmission and the constant on- and- off air behaviour it is difficult to detect how many transmitters are operating at any one time, however, if you are quick on the button and perhaps have a digital read-out receiver, it is possible to try and monitor lots of them - my best effort was 9 frequencies in the space of 60 seconds.

It is also interesting to note the strange FM mode used, this is a wide signal of about 10 kHz, however, the Faders are capable of sending in AM, one morning I was tuning along the bands and detected a number of frequencies sending out a 1 kHz AM tone, after a few minutes of noting these I concluded that they were all Fader frequencies. Meanwhile other Faders were providing a normal service.

A final observation from Brian in Crawley. He tells me that he stayed on a Fader frequency for over 1 hour, and, although the Fader was not operational, it did send a single 8.5 second burst at 00, 15, 30 & 45 minutes past the hour. This would suggest that the equipment is still tuned while not in full use!

I would be interested to find out more about these odd stations, certainly the transmitter site must be quite extensive, also due to the very distinctive nature of the mode used I would suggest that it is only used by one organisation operated by a single country. Signals are certainly strong even in the afternoon, which suggests that the stations transmitters are quite close to the United Kingdom if not within it.

## Simon Mason Writes .....

A warm welcome to issue nine and the dark nights of Winter, something of a far cry from my 10 day trip to The Netherlands and Germany. I had intended to visit the town of Husum in Northern Germany to have a look at the origin of the old DEA47 transmissions.

The weather was so hot that the drive would have been very unpleasant, so I did not travel too far from my base in the Dutch province of Drenthe. However, I did manage some limited monitoring in Germany but did not find reception too different from my home QTH in Kingston-upon-Hull.

One station that was appreciably stronger was the German Lady '000 000' ENDE (G7) broadcast on Saturday 29th July at 08.00 UTC. The YL repeated 522 522 522 1 then 1438 205 1438 205 and into 5F groups. The 05.30 UTC Kilo Whisky broadcast on 12314 was much fainter which was quite surprising. The Russian Man (S7) was heard with strong signals on 13553 at 19.40 UTC with 519 519 519 000. Also, two Counting Stations in English were quite audible at 19.00 on Monday on 9219 and 5153 (not //). All Lincolnshire Poacher transmissions were clearly audible as were those from the Nancy Adam Susan family.

Now onto my main features, this time a look at VLB and an update on the German 2 Letter Stations.

### VLB (E10)

Monitoring VLB can be rather tedious. Most of the time the alleged MOSSAD station sends "VLB 2" at 45 minutes past the hour then leaves the air after a few minutes. However, on occasions transmissions can become irregular and unusual.

The date of May 2nd is a good example. At 21.45 the usual VLB 2 marker was being sent and went off at the usual time, but, this was followed at 22.00 by a rare event, a message. In this case the YL repeated "VLB" for a couple of minutes and then started a 42 group message in the same manner as the majority of the other phonetic alphabet stations. A short way into the message the broadcast was abruptly terminated and the station was silent until 22.14. The message did not continue but a short "string" was sent, "VLB14D31". This continued until 22.35 when it in turn went off and the usual 2 suffix marker returned at 22.45. No further departures from the normal schedule were noted during the night.

I have to say that quite a few times I have been caught unawares by this station - with messages (not strings) being sent at non-standard times. For example, I tuned into a VLB frequency at 23.40 and 5L groups have been in progress which have invariably been stopped before the "End of Message" terminator. At 23.45 the "VLB 2" marker followed with the same signal strength. I am unsure whether on these occasions another stations message is being sent over VLB's frequencies (which sometimes happens), or VLB has short messages that can begin and end on a somewhat "ad-hoc" basis.

At least I have have on tape a recording of a "kosher" VLB call-up and message to prove to myself that they do happen.

Strings of mixed letters and numbers are much more common and here are a few examples heard recently starting with an unusual 2 suffix string.

A 2 means "no message", so to include a 2 as the first suffix in a message is unique, at least in my own records.

May 17th	01.40-03.00	VLB24T12F36
May 17th	20.00-20.40	VLB18L36T46
May 17th	21.45-23.45	VLB2
May 18th	00.45-	VLB2
May 18th	01.45-03.45	VLB13F16T44R46
May 18th	03.45-	VLB + Message
May 18th	04.45-	VLB2
May 19th	All Evening	VLB2
May 23rd	19.45-	VLB14B88

On another occasion at 16.45 "VLB 2" was being sent on 7605 and 13921. At 16.50 it went off, but on 13922.5 another faint MOSSAD transmission could be heard. This is a similar effect to that experienced with the strange broadcast on 17502.5 of the station "William Susan Peter" at 12.00 UTC which is in U.S.B. off the edge of a Tunisian broadcast station.

Before leaving the subject of VLB, I noticed a very interesting piece in the "Contact" magazine of the World DX Club which originated in the HCJB DX programme. I will present it as it appeared -

ISRAEL - "Israel Defence Forces Radio is currently audible on 8127 kHz U.S.B. Try evenings in Europe. Rosentheim on the Internet reports that the transmissions are unintentional. There is a diplomatic station VLB near Tel Aviv on 8127 kHz that transmits for 5 minutes at 45 minutes past each hour. A strong AM transmitter on 1287 kHz relaying the Defence Forces Radio station is close by. The transmitter and antenna of the diplomatic station are left tuned up but the transmitter switched off, however, the AM transmitter is energising the tuned circuit and causing the spurious radiation on 8127 kHz"

The term "diplomatic" is that of Rosentheim and not shared by ENIGMA !

Editors' note: the carrier wave would have to remain on 8127 kHz other-wise it would be technically impossible !

Simon also sends ENIGMA the latest information on the German 2-Letter stations, (G16). These stations operated by the German B.N.D. have changed considerably since the re-unification of Germany and the end of the cold war. The 2-Letter stations were active through-out the evenings in Europe sending regular traffic every thirty minutes on short hop frequencies in the 3 4 5 & 6 mHz area of the band. In addition to this large set-up they also operated stations DFC37 & DFD21 on exclusive frequencies in the 3 & 4 mHz area between 15.00 & 22.00 daily for many years.

And if that was not enough Papa November also operated daily sending short messages every six hours on a further four exclusive frequencies.

Most of the traffic heard at present would seem to be aimed outside the immediate area. Since the demise of DFC37/DFD21 and Papa November very few of the other German 2-Letter call-signs now remain active.

Stations active at present are CD, GK, KW, HK, WL, JW, & SB in the German Language and MD and AU in English.

The following is a list of the most active stations, but of course others are still around on a less regular basis.

TIME	CALL	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
00.00	CD	11545	11617	12314	12210 12092	11545	?	?
11.00	CD	?	?	?	20350	?	20240	20350
05.30	KW	12314	12314	12314	12314	12314	12314	12314
09.30	KW	16414	16414	16414	16414	16414	16414	16414
14.30	KW	?	16414	14945	?	?	?	14945
23.30	HK	?	8063	9325	9040	9040	9325	9040
23.30	SB	?	11545	10740	10500	?	10177	9450

I also suspect HK is also daily at 16.00 (try THU 18195).

Finally, MD (English language) (E16) is on Sunday at 09.00 & 13.30 on Tuesday and Thursday around the usual 11 & 12 MHz frequencies (see station news for full list of frequencies).



## STATION FEATURE -

In issue 8 we promised to take a more detailed look at spy tone stations, or Polytones as we would like to call them. Although ENIGMA targets voice and CW/MCW transmissions which do not need specialised decoding equipment we feel that Polytones are of interest to our readers.

The transmissions fall into three main types and we feel sure you will have come across these if you regularly scan the short wave bands.

1) HIGH PITCH POLYTONE TRANSMISSIONS, (XPH) this particular style of transmission likes to stay hidden and will often start at odd times such as 20 minutes past the hour. The signal is AM - very strong steady carrier - the transmission starts with a repeating sequence of tones, this is likely to translate along the lines of the identification and number of messages to follow, such as 487 487 487 1 - 487 487 487 1 - which goes on for several minutes. This is followed by a rapid burst of one number, probably 0000000000 then a faster tone message, consisting of single 5F groups. This can vary in length from a minute or so to over 5 minutes or longer. at the end another rapid burst follows 0000000000 and the transmission ends.

There is no pattern to the communications (like the Russian & English Man transmissions) although spy number frequencies are often used but it appears that schedules are short-lived and frequencies discarded after use. Transmissions are often on high frequencies but a few do drop down as low as 5 MHz. The transmissions are difficult for non-recipients to decode because it is not known which tone equates to which number as only the circuitry in the machine would reveal this ( which adds a further dimension to the problem of trying to break into the messages). The lowest tone sent always corresponds to spaces, so groups can be easily be counted by listening to the rhythm of the message. Messages are infrequent because high grade agents only receive messages occasionally in order not to compromise their position.

2) LOW PITCH POLYTONE TRANSMISSIONS, (XPL) these may not belong to the same family as those described above, although we cannot be certain. The low pitch polytones tend to operate on lower frequencies around 4.5 & 6 MHz. the signal consists of a very slow pattern of changing tones sent at a low almost moaning pitch, unlike the fast AM tones of the first station we described. It is difficult to describe the operation of these stations which are again random in both time and frequency of transmission, however I feel we are safe to suggest that they have a similar purpose to their more up-beat relatives.

3) THE SIX TONE STATIONS, (X6) these have been around for many years (certainly since the mid - 1970's) and have remained unchanged through-out their lifetime. Still very active the transmissions consist of a series of six tones sent over about 3 seconds, and repeated continuously for 5 - 15 minutes. There are a number of different sequences sent, but one particular 'melody' seems more favoured than others. The signal is always strong and uses A.M. These factors, along with their habit of using frequencies and - times at random appearing at 5 minute intervals within the hour - are shared in common with numbers transmissions believed to be KGB/GRU controlled.

Several schools of thought exist as to the precise purpose of these transmissions, the presence or absence of a particular 'melody' may in itself indicate to the recipient a particular status or message. Alternatively, the individual notes may each represent numbers - as with polytones. i.e. a repeated 6 figure group, the tones are possibly the times for tuning in for a message, such as, 060900 could be 09.00 on the 6th of this month, usual frequency.

No regular schedules have been found for the Six Tone stations, nor have any favoured frequencies, however, there is evidence of repeats being sent on different frequencies within the same hour.

So, what evidence do we have that the tone stations are espionage related ?

As we said earlier the Six Tone stations may well indicate that traffic is to follow, the proper messages consist of repetitive tones in a cycle then a continuous tone before many fast tones. The continuous tone then resumes after the end of the rapid tones and the cycle continues briefly before going off the air. Some believed however that the tones printed in morse on a special tape which was dusted with powder to reveal the messages. Others believed that the light box had a replay facility to light up the numbers again as it appeared to some that the tones were transmitted too quickly to be written down. Opinion was divided. But all (or most) was to be revealed during the case of Hugh Hambleton.

Hugh Hambleton was a Canadian professor who had worked for NATO whilst working for the KGB, he was jailed in London in 1982. Hambleton was one of the first agents to be equipped with a device which went onto be known as the Hambleton tone decoder (or luminaire).

The luminaire was shown to Hambleton during training in a flat in Moscow in 1977 but due to its sensitivity it was not possible to get it to him through a dead letter box. Instead it was delivered by a live drop in Canada. A man drew up beside Hambleton's car at the appropriate time and place and passed a car battery to him. Hambleton took it home and after removing the battery case found the device. The luminaire or light box was grey, 9 inches long, 6 inches wide and 2 inches deep. After attaching the equipment to a short wave receiver he was ready to tune to the transmission, as the tones were received each number behind a glass front was illuminated and he was able to write down the numbers in blocks of 5 for decoding using a one-time pad or gamma pad as the RIS calls them.

A government witness at his trial from GCHQ called Mr A said that the luminaire was made in Russia and nothing like it existed in the West. The luminaire was only issued to highly prized agents who would not or could not learn morse or their living conditions made its reception unwise. They would be issued with a luminaire and it could receive messages in bad conditions regardless of static, it was also more secure as it was silent, the tones were fed through a connector in the ear socket and the agent could listen via another earpiece. The drawback to the equipment was that its presence screamed espionage and was sufficient to condemn, as it did in Hambleton's case.

A photograph of a luminaire can be found in the book "The Intelligence War" by Colonel William Kennedy. I regret we are unable to reproduce it due to copyright.

Our special thanks to D for his help with this feature.

## ENIGMA BOOK REVIEW

BY WAY OF DECEPTION - VICTOR OSTROVSKY & CLAIR HOY

St. Martins Press - 1990

Subtitled "The making and unmasking of a MOSSAD Officer". This book tells the inside story of the Israeli secret service - An organisation reputed to be the most secretive in the world.

Expecting this to be the usual heavy mix of political intrigue and indigestible government details, I was pleasantly surprised to find the book written in a light anecdotal style, which was highly readable.

The book is divided into three sections, with sections one and two relating to the author's training at the Prime Minister's Supper Residence just outside Tel Aviv, which is in reality the Midrasha - the MOSSAD Training Academy. In these two sections you are taken through the classroom studies, out onto the streets for practical tests and to special training areas where firearms and hostage rescue skills are taught. Throughout the book, the author explains how he became increasingly disillusioned with the "Twisted ideals and self-centred pragmatism" he encountered, and leaves you in no doubt as to the ruthlessness of the MOSSAD.

Section three takes a look at past political events in the Middle East and explains how the MOSSAD was influential in changing the outcome of these situations. A look at some of the Chapter titles "Carlos", Exocet", Helping Arafat", gives some idea of what to expect, and although much of the politics went way over my head, the stories are fascinating and well told. I particularly liked "Operation Moses", the story of a tourist resort, 75 miles north of Port Sudan, set up in 1984 as a MOSSAD front to rescue and evacuate thousands of black Jews from the war and drought in Ethiopia.

At the end of the book are a series of appendices - a strange collection of documents including a layout of the MOSSAD Academy, the author's MOSSAD Pay slip (a printed reconstruction - not a photograph of facsimile!), and an AMAN Questionnaire on Syrian Military Preparedness.

There are two references to the use of radio by the MOSSAD which occupy only a few lines in the book. One refers to the use of a computerised non-stop station broadcasting five letter groups, while the other mentions the use of burst communications for agents sending messages back to the MOSSAD. One interesting claim made by the author, concerns the size of the MOSSAD organisation. He claims that only 30 to 35 Case Officers were employed world-wide, (as compared to the KGB's equivalent at the time of some 15,000), which conflicts with the accepted view of the MOSSAD as being a very large organisation.

This brings me to my final point. The book offers a fascinating insight into the life of a secret service employee. A candid expose of everything you would expect from such a lifestyle - but it struck me as being just a little too good to be true. Enjoy the book and revel in the story telling. But remember, in this shadowy world of deceit and disinformation, nothing is EVER as it appears to be .....

Brian Rogers

## PRESS RELEASE

### TURNING UP THE HEAT - MI5 AFTER THE COLD WAR

By Larry O'Hara

Published by Phoenix Press

Price £5 (+ £1 P&P) ISBN 0 948984 29 5

Through diligent investigative research of recent events and critical analysis of the Secret State's media throughput, the author exposes for the first time MI5's attempts to secure a post-cold war role by turning up the heat in domestic 'extra-parliamentary' politics. *Turning up the Heat* raises some disturbing questions about MI5's recent operations:

- \* Does recent targeting of UDA supporters in England and Scotland indicate MI5's intention to instigate a possible UDA mainland campaign in the future with its agents, as has happened in Northern Ireland in the Brian Nelson case, should the ceasefire not hold?
- \* Is MI5 attempting to 'forge links' between Northern Irish loyalists and English fascists to this end?
- \* Why were two English IRA recruits - one of them well known to Special Branch and MI5 as an anti-fascist - apparently 'allowed' to plant bombs on trains after being filmed on video planting a bomb outside Harrods? Do these cases - and similar targeting of Animal Rights activists, Scottish/Welsh republican's - indicate a widening of MI5's range of targets?
- \* Harold Covington, a leading U.S. Nazi, was involved in the setting up of Combat-18 in Britain. It is revealed here for the first time that he may be an FBI asset. If so this raises disturbing questions about FBI collusion with MI5. Are MI5 seeking to introduce a UK equivalent to the FBI's COINTELPRO operation into British politics?
- \* Does the alarming increase in racial attacks and fascist intimidation of the Left in Leeds have anything to do with MI5's attempts to muscle in on regional police work (including that of Special Branch)? If secret state infiltration of both fascists and anti-fascists is as widespread as evidence suggests, could Leeds be MI5's test-ground for political intoxication - as practised by the French in Algeria and later by the Italian secret state?
- \* Are MI5 trying to turn C18 into a 'pseudo-gang' controlled directly by their agents? Are they trying to 'take out' the original leadership with victimisation, selective arrests and entrapments in preparation for this?
- \* As O'Hara 'outs' yet another fascist/state-connected *agent provocateur* in the Green movement, can we expect more operations against eco-activists when the Criminal Justice Bill comes into force?

Larry O'Hara is a frequent contributor *Lobster* magazine and is author of *A Lie too Far and At War with the Truth* [Whitby: Mina Productions, 1993].

For further enquiries ring Voicemail 0891-669900, dial 10189 after prompt and leave your details. Alternatively write to Larry O'Hara, BM 4769, London, WC1N 3XX

Distribution: Send £6 cheque payable to Larry O'Hara at the address above

## THE CZECH STATIONS - Part Two

Before we begin, a couple of corrections are in order. In the previous article the reference to S13 being the only voice station operating in the 1970's should read S3. In the following paragraph the reference to S8 should read S10, and similarly, three paragraphs later. Anyone reading that article carefully would have noticed those errors - they were entirely my (M.G.) fault, and I apologise for any confusion they may have caused.

Continuing our tour of the Czech Numbers World brings us to perhaps the most well-known of all the Numbers Stations, OLX (M6/S16). This began its life as S15 - Simon Mason's "Rapid Dots"; it also had a Morse version, M6A, which was often reported by the Americans on 7413kHz, probably because this freq. was used by U.S. pirates.

These earlier versions of OLX were last reported in 1991, after which the present versions began. There are several important differences between Langley Pierce's and Simon Mason's reporting of S15, which have not yet been resolved.

L.P. : Begins on hour or h+30, very regular. Sends VVV VVV DE OLX in morse for 5 mins. before, Sends 3f ID for 5 mins (if a null message this ends after 2 mins.), 5f single groups followed by "Papaqui" (L.P. claims this is Czech for repeat; the word may have sounded like that, but it is not a Czech spelling, nor does it mean 'repeat') 5f msg repeated, ends "Konec". Station ended 1989. Regular schedules gradually resumed, including a morse version in 1990. (this definitely refers to our present OLX)

S.M.: Begins at any 5 min. interval (correct), sends rapid dots for 5 mins. prior to ID, sends 3f ID for 5 mins, 5f single groups follow group count. Ended December 1990.

Although aware of this station in the 1980's, (it was impossible not to be!) I now regret not having kept logs, as the above contradictions would have been easier to untangle! I suspect that L.P. has become confused, and that the callsign OLX only appeared when the new network started operating. (I'm sure I'd have noticed OLX if it was around in the 80's)

S15 did appear at any 5 min. interval within the hour, and used a regular set of callsigns, in the same way that OLX does now, however, S15 also included callsigns which acted as null message indicators. These all included a zero as one of the three figures; no message followed these calls, the transmission abruptly ending. As soon as the agent/illegal heard such a call he/she would listen no further. The recipient would not have to "endure 5 minutes of mind-numbing 'dva tri osm' ad nauseum, only to be rewarded by a sudden departure" as S.M. states. Actually, in that particular case, the ID 238 would indicate a message was to follow. ID's such as 069 or 108 would be signs to switch off.

As in the present OLX, ID's don't refer to actual individual agents - they are Schedule Numbers sent at a particular time on a particular freq. For example, 729 schedule operated at 2045 (on a particular day of the week?) on 3380kHz, if this was to change to, say, 707, no message would follow. Null message indicators were not random 3f numbers including a zero, and probably had an extra significance to the user of any particular schedule. They included:- 052 061 069 082 085 092 108 201 204 205 208 507 707. Valid ID's included:- 158 185 242 269 272 288 (still used) 311 627 729 424.

The lesser-known M6A probably operated in a similar way. Rapid dots (were these actually the rapid dashes as sent by M7 & M10?) were sent for 5 mins. followed by a 3f ID sent six times, then = 011 011 (just as today except that the dots have been replaced by VVV VVV DE OLX.) The call lasted between 3 & 12 mins. according to L.P. As with OLX, 3f groups follow the group count, and were probably repeated in the same way. Like OLX, it ended with = and ID sent 3 times. This station also used null message indicators, 023 031 043 etc. and ID's such as 255 334 388 399 454 538 753 855. The 011 011 was occasionally replaced by 001 or 086. OLX today invariably sends 011. Its purpose is unknown and it only applies to the Morse transmissions, and is now possibly no more than a legacy from yhe past. Group counts have remained similar over the years, rarely less than 50.

Freqs. used by the earlier network:- 3228 3238 3380 3457 3460 4065 4104 4160 4560 4790 4913 5270 5450 5770 5775 6780 7413 8159 9350 10180. Indicates a European operation. OLX, however, is a worldwide operation; it not only replaced the earlier network, but serves a different purpose. Around 1991 MI6 set up a Central European office in Prague. OLX uses a completely new set of freqs (except 5775):- 3280 4601 5301 5775 6282 6758 8142 9320 11002 12275 14977 18303 and uses three in parallel. Forty regular 3f schedule numbers are used on a weekly basis - 161 time slots per week. (S15/M6A probably used a more complex interlocking schedule) OLX sends so many messages that not all can be valid. Agents will be allocated particular schedules as and when required, meanwhile all schedules remain in constant operation, regardless of whether they are actually in use or not. The agent has no clue in the preamble as to whether the forthcoming message is valid or not.

In the final article we will turn to the so-called Control Stations, S17 & S19, and the Czech Man in his non-Control role. Is he still around? We sometimes receive tantalisingly vague reports of a "rough Slavic voice" on the lower frequencies. Could that be him? Without more detailed logging we'll never know. Please remember to record the format of unknowns as fully as possible. It is crucial to identification.

## LOOKING EAST

We had lots of interest after our feature in issue 8 - Looking East - so I hope this update will bring you even more food for thought. Our first port of call is Richard in Singapore who sent us some very interesting information.

Richard starts by telling ENIGMA that the unidentified log in our Far East section last time round (6400 @ 15.00 UTC) is Pyongyang Broadcasting Station. (V15). The language is Korean, and the 5F groups are intended for compatriots (ie-agents) in the south, be they real or imaginary. PBS is also on MW & FM locally.

On the subject of New Star Radio (V13). Richard tells us that he first heard it in 1990 when he began DXing. New Star Radio uses several frequencies ; 8300 (NS stn 4), 9725 (NS stn 3) 11430 (NS stn 1) 13750 (NS stn 5) and 15388 (NS stn 2). Most stations broadcast on the hour or half hour. 8300 does however have a less regular schedule. Contrary to what Jerod Pore wrote, I had never heard a physical location mentioned in their broadcasts although it's rather obvious that they are from Taiwan, judging by accent.

Up until very recently all broadcasts were done manually, recently however, some broadcasts have become "computerised" with the "numbers" section being inserted by computer. One wonders why this investment is necessary if the whole operation is carried out in order to confuse mainland China.

The following is a direct translation of the 'live' part of the station announcement on June 19th at 09.00 UTC on 11430. All other channels except 8300 were also on air but not in parallel. Music (as yet unidentified) " This is New Star Broadcasting Station One" (said twice). "in this time, for unit 4835, the month of June, three telegrams, number 8 9, and 10, total of 63 characters (= words), unit 4835, please take note" (said twice) more music...

"this is New Star Broadcasting Station 1" (said twice)" We are going to read telegrams to you, Please take note, prepare to copy "(unit # and telegram again repeated). This whole sentence repeated 3 times.

A series of 4F groups follow. Occasionally (although rare) it is a 5F group. If there are + 20 groups, a short announcement is made after every 20 are completed to the effect that the said number of characters have been read. If there is a message for more than 1 unit, the announcement would repeat the whole formality with the 2nd unit after she is through with the first one. After she completes a message she says "

"The above is for unit 4835, June telegrams, numbers 8 of 19 characters is now completed". If all messages are finished, she says "The above special communication is completed, thanks for listening, wishing you health and happiness - Goodbye".

I have never hear a message relayed from one unit to another, Jerod is correct in saying that Chinese telegrams consist of 4F groups with each representing a character. I have tried to decode some of the messages with the Chinese telegram manual I own, but needless to say , the results do not make any sense !

On two occasions, I have actually heard verbal messages. " Unit XXXX, it is some time since we last received a letter from you. Last time you said you had made a new friend. How is the situation now ? Please stay in original place and continue your work. Wishing you peace and success, Goodbye". the message was read twice. On another occasion, the lady announced after the conclusion of the messages " Now, please listen to a selection of music". For the next half hour, some Taiwanese pop music ( with no words) was heard.

The poor reception (22.15 UTC) of 8300 in SE Asia does seem to suggest that this transmission is directed elsewhere, especially when Voice of Asia is loud and clear in the 7 MHz band.

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Richard has also sent us his observations on other Far East stations mentioned in ENIGMA and some that are not.

"You also mentioned other transmissions in Far East languages. So far, I am unsuccessful in hearing some of these despite my location in Singapore. While checking out the frequency 5738 at 12.00 UTC I did hear something unexplained. For 5 minutes, a lady repeated in Mandarin 'I am Zhuhai' before saying 'No Goodbye' I have heard something similar on March 10th this year at 00.00 UTC and 06.45 UTC on 15974 USB. 'Zhuhai' can refer to a place in Guandong opposite Macau, but 2 years earlier I heard a similar broadcast on 15940 AM, with the message 'I am cuckoo bird ! Zhuhai' therefore can also mean 'pigs near feet' (!)



Messages of this kind are rather occasional so catching them is a hit or miss affair. The accent of the announcer again suggests Taiwan origin.

While flipping through my log, I also noticed an entry I made of 'Zhuhai' on 1st January 1995 at 23.37 UTC on 13824 USB, and again the next day 04.05 to 04.07 UTC. Pips follow after 'Goodbye' so perhaps this is utility of some sort.

You may also be interested to know that some transport companies in Taiwan employ SW - AM broadcasts consisting of numbers to deploy their vehicles. Taxi companies are especially prevalent in and around the 11 meter band, although they are heard less frequently these days. I also suspect that cab companies in Indonesia are employing something similar. Companies involved in the distribution of consumer goods in Indonesia also employ numbers sent over short wave to check quantities of orders and stock. Remember, Indonesia is a huge archipelago, so the use of SW radio in commerce is actually logical, as computers have yet to spread to the many islands.

"Finally I have also heard what appears to be a Vietnamese numbers station on 21st May at 10.30 UTC on 13990 USB. A man was reading out 5F groups, no repeat, a 'click' was heard after every group. The message went on for 3 minutes, some conversation with another party and another message followed".

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Risto in Finland also sends further confirmation about the transmissions at 15.00 on 6400 kHz. Risto says this is definitely Pyongyang. If you listen to this frequency at 15.30 or 16.00 UTC you will hear those colourful propaganda programmes. The Korean language is easily recognised by the word innida at the end of every sentence. The numbers transmission was heard last year between 13.00 and 14.00 around the 49 mb, but never twice on the same frequency.

Readers may be interested (not directly numbers related) to know that the clandestine Voice of National Salvation ( which broadcasts from North Korea to the South) has had its location traced. During a recent visit to North Korea, a member of the Asian Broadcasting Institute was able to confirm the location of one of the transmitters used. According to an investigation by the South Korean authorities, this clandestine station has transmitters in Pyongyang, Haeju and Wonsan. Of these three locations, the Japanese DXer was able to confirm the presence of the Wonsan transmitter, which is on a hill in Wonsan City. This transmitter is used on 3840 kHz. (R Japan 21 May & BDXC Communication July).

Risto also tells us about a Chinese lady he heard last year at 20.00 UTC on 5846 calling Golf Mike Mo-Sa. Later, she repeated what were probably three Chinese numbers. She even said goodbye at the end of the transmission which lasted about 5 minutes, she has not been heard recently : zai jian.

#### LATE NEWS

Just before going to print, Richard in Singapore sends in further information concerning a daily transmission at 14.00 UTC on 5873 kHz variable.

The transmission starts with 2 minute long interval signal same as the one used by Radio Pyongyang. After that are 4 minutes of martial music. The lady then begins to read a series of messages for different units. The lady's voice as well as the message format (5F groups) is similar to the one heard at 15.00 UTC daily on 6398 kHz UTC from PBS.

On 5873 kHz, the whole transmission lasts about 15 minutes, signing off with another piece of martial music. The modulation of the transmitter is less than satisfactory, and is characteristic of radio transmitters based in North Korea. The language used in the this transmission is Korean.

Thanks for all contributions to Looking East. We would welcome any further logs, news and observations concerning transmissions from this area of the world.

# HELP PAGE!

Welcome along to our 'Help Page'. I would like to start by thanking all the readers who returned copies of the Questionnaire which was sent out to those members who were due to renew subscriptions. Further questionnaires will be sent with this issue, you will receive one if your subscription is now due.

Thanks for all your subscription funds, extra money which we received will be used to subsidise readers who find it difficult to send in funds.

The next issue of ENIGMA (10) will carry the results of our reader survey, also we shall be carrying out a review of the progress we have made up to our tenth issue - as a result of this the next ENIGMA Newsletter will be published in late March 1996 - this will allow us a little extra time to pull everything together.

1) Several readers were puzzled by the list of names which appeared at the bottom of our help page, let me explain a little more.

The Laughing Cavalier was the letter-writing name of Mr Peter Quintel, he sent in logs to Short Wave Magazine for many years - and was a dedicated Numbers Station monitor, although we have had reports that Peter died in April 1993 - did you know him or perhaps were in contact with him ?

Langley Pierce, author of the book "Intercepting Numbers Stations" - although we wrote to Langley he did not respond, in-fact he seems very elusive and is not (to our knowledge) a member of ENIGMA - which seems odd ! - One ENIGMA member called at Interproducts mailing address in Perth, Scotland, (many other activities go on at this address) but Mr Pierce was not there ! Another ENIGMA reader wrote to Mr Pierce about a month ago, but has not yet received a reply. Our reader comments, "maybe he is on holiday or perhaps he is a bit - er- shy".

G H Merrick was the joker card in the pack - but may have something in common with the others. Harold in Southampton spotted this one and wrote " G H Merrick is a mythical person to whom all official letters are addressed when writing to MI6, see 'The Intelligence Game' by James Rusbridger page 18 ". Spot on, Harold.

2) Transmission sites, Thank you to those readers who sent in information concerning sites. Please continue to send this to us (anonymous information always appreciated) - Due to the amount of information we hold on this subject, we are saving this feature over until next time.

3) Radio North Sea International. We are still keen to hear from anyone who may have had connections with this station; can you help? My thanks to Andy Cadier at Short Wave Magazine, who printed the following information in his "Off The Record Page" (October issue)

"Spy Ship". The numbers station group ENIGMA, in a recent newsletter are seeking information on an alleged numbers station that they say was located aboard the pirate radio vessel MEBO II. Radio North Sea Int had five transmitters aboard the ship, 1x1kW VHF/FM, 1x105kW MW, 2x10kW SW and an amateur radio transceiver.

Editors note : Other transmitters included a 10kW MW, 650 MHz UHF link, the usual maritime VHF, HF/MF/LF equipment, HF RTTY link to Geneva.

The amateur transceiver was run by the station engineers and for very obvious reasons used a false Panamanian maritime mobile callsign.

The accusations relating to suspected espionage activities surfaced in 1971 following a dispute with a rival station called Radio Veronica. On the 21st September 1971 five people, including a Radio Veronica director, were sentenced to one year imprisonment for conducting a fire bomb attack on the MEBO II. Although the stern of the ship was badly damaged broadcasting continued while repairs were carried out.

RNI eventually closed down on 30th August 1974 but the ship was detained in Holland until being sold to Libya in 1977. Thanks Andy.

(More on RNI in issue 10).

4) Several readers have asked about the legal position of listening to number stations? Others with amateur licences are worried about keeping number logs. While scanning seems to be in the listening spot light at present - what are your views on listening to numbers?

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Just a couple of interesting bits & pieces; in issue 8 we reviewed the book "The Underground Frequency Guide" by Don Schimmel. Mike in Bath tells me he has heard from Harry Helms at High Text Publications; the book is available in the UK & Europe through the following address.

Gazelle Book Service Ltd, FalcoIn House, Queens Square, Lancaster, LA1 1RN UK. Telephone (0) 524 68765 - FAX (0) 524 63232

Harry says that he does not know the UK price.

Simon Mason tells me he has been in touch with Irdial - Discs, who are ready to launch the CD of Number Stations. They are working on tapes received from listeners in the Far East at present, but the CD should be out soon. We will keep you posted.

Thank you to all our readers who have taken time to drop us a line, may we take this opportunity to wish you all a very peaceful and happy New Year for 1996. And please keep in touch.

## The Russian Man and Family — An Update

Mike Chace ([mikec@praxis.co.uk](mailto:mikec@praxis.co.uk))

Back in ENIGMA Issue 6, I wrote an article detailing the characteristics of this interesting and very active family of numbers stations. The main members of the clan, the Russian and English Men (*S5, S6, E6 and E7*) and the Morse *M12* and *M14/24* stations continue at their usual level of activity but over the past months there have been some new additions to the family and some more indications of the stations' schedules have been ascertained.

### Meet the Family

At the time of writing my original article I knew that the family consisted of the Russian Men, English Men and German Ladies in voice, and *M12* and *M14/24* in Morse. Since that time, we have new arrivals in the form of the Spanish Man (*V7*) and Spanish Lady (*V6*) and an English Lady (*E17a*) has also been heard, but only on one occasion.

A German Man (*G19*) has been known to have been operational a few years ago (see Simon Mason's "Euronumbers Mystery" book) but has not been heard by me since I first began to concentrate on these stations.

The English Lady was heard only once in an interesting transmission on 13875kHz on Saturday, 3rd June, 1995. This transmission began at 1230UTC with the English Lady calling in the normal family manner for agent 647. On completion of the message, the English Man (*E6*) immediately began to call for the same agent, but with a new style of voice synthesiser. Sadly, neither this new male voice nor the female variant have been heard by me since that day.

Both the Spanish language variants have low levels of activity which perhaps indicate that this network does not have many agents using this language. The pronunciation of numbers in both cases is standard Castillian Spanish.

### Regular Transmissions

At the time of writing, I know of only three remaining regular schedules. One is kept by a Russian Man, one by an English Man, and the other by a German Lady. Here they are:

<i>Language</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>Time (UTC)</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Agent</i>
Russian (S25)	Daily	0800	14890kHz	615
Russian (S25)	Daily	0820	11270kHz	615
English (E6)	Monday <sup>1</sup>	1910	10162kHz	947
English (E6)	Monday	2010	8074kHz	947
German (G7)	Tuesday <sup>2</sup>	0630	7378kHz	278
German (G7)	Saturday	0900 <sup>3</sup>	11127kHz	621-1

As noted in the previous article, agent 947 rarely receives traffic but continues to be called-up each week. When messages do appear, they are usually very long — the record still standing at a marathon 401 groups — which also applies to the German Lady's transmission to "278".

Despite over 600 individual loggings of the family over four years, I have still to determine a schedule for any of its members. This appears to support the assertion made by Langley Pierce in his book "Intercepting Numbers Stations" which told a similar story of a suspected, very long and complex but as yet undetermined schedule. What I can tell from my logs is that:

- transmissions to the same agent often appear on the same day, at the same time and on the same frequency year after year;
- many transmissions appear on the same frequency, at the same time on one day per week lasting for one month. Again, this monthly pattern is often repeated a year later.

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<sup>1</sup> Repeated on Tuesdays and Wednesdays when a message is sent. Repeated only on Tuesday if no message is sent.

<sup>2</sup> March to October each year.

<sup>3</sup> This schedule appears to keep to UTC+1, probably indicating a Central European target. In other words, it appears at 0800UTC during British Summertime (BST = UTC+1) but reverts to 0900UTC when the UK moves back to GMT during the winter and spring.

As regards these findings, it is the day of the transmission rather than the date, that is important in determining its appearance next year. For example the third Saturday in June, regardless of the date that that day occurs on.

### More on the "Control" Transmission (S25)

In my previous article on this family, I had christened the daily Russian Man messages on 14890 and 11270kHz as the control transmission because of their similarity to the Counting Station's transmissions of the same name.

To recap, the normal mode of transmission sees 615, 615, 615 followed by a single 5F group, sent twice on 14890kHz. All this is sent for a period of 10 minutes. This scheme is repeated for the next ten minutes but a different 5F group is sent. The transmitter is then moved to 11270kHz where the process is repeated, again with two different 5F groups. The normal end-of-message signal of five zeros is only sent on the lower frequency. These transmissions continue unbroken today.

I have carried out some analysis on the 5F groups sent, and this is what transpires:

- the four 5F groups sent always start with the same digit and end with the same digit, for example 95115, 92675 on 14890kHz and 97635, 90035 on 11270kHz;
- the start and end digits for any 5F group come from only a certain number of pairs. These are:

0xxx2	0xxx8	2xxx9	4xxx7	6xxx1	6xxx6
7xxx3	7xxx4	8xxx0	8xxx3	9xxx5	

As to exactly what this denotes, I'm not sure. Perhaps a certain start and end digit indicates a certain class of message, the meaning of which is conveyed by the middle three digits?

- counting the number of calendar days between the appearance of a certain start and end digit combination reveals some sort of pattern. For example, I counted the number of days between each appearance of the 9xxx5 groups, in nearly all cases, the intervals were divisible by a multiple of 4. However, this finding is not 100% consistent amongst all start/end combinations.

Repeats occurs  
Western Britain

I calculate that a good three months of everyday listening to the control transmission may well reveal more information but due to present commitments, I'm unable to take up the challenge myself. Of course, I'd love to hear from anyone else if they would like to have a go!

As noted in my previous article on these stations, the control transmission has a further two modes of traffic. Rarely, it will send either a normal (Format 1) message or a strange hybrid format containing the groups 11111, 22222 and 33333 interspersed between normal "random" 5F groups. This latter type of transmission will often continue for hours without end, the record standing at over 4 hours. Many listeners have reported that this form of transmission has been on the increase of late, in fact since the troubles in Bosnia have intensified.

More details on this transmission in the next issue of ENIGMA.

### **New Clues, Coincidences, and Odd Behaviour?**

A few days before I began to write this update, I copied an English Man (E7) transmission on 7779kHz at 2000UTC directed at agent 184-1. Having previously swept the bands for the station's tell-tale AM carrier, I went back through the memory channels that I had stored as a result. One carrier was still strong, and as expected, at 2010, the English Man started on 10868kHz to agent 184. Nothing unusual so far, but as I copied the first groups of the message down, this is what I found: 21086, 82647, 77779, 23049. Notice that if you knock the "2" of the first group off and continue to the first digit of the second group, you get 10868 — the frequency currently in use. Even more curious, if you look carefully, the last frequency heard also occurs in the group 77779. The message caught my attention in any case, as it was short and had rather too many double-digits eg 44556, 33244 etc, but I had never seen frequencies mixed in with the "text". Just coincidence perhaps, but I'll be watching in future....

Also look out for English Man (E7) transmissions to the agent "235". These messages always have a characteristic non-random format where the first three groups are repeated in mirror image at the end of the message. A recent example being: 00107, 19200, 19200, (54 more random 5F groups), 19200, 19200, 00107. Worth looking out for!

Meanwhile, I would be happy to provide others with a copy of my logs (on paper, disk or via e-mail). Your logs concerning the stations in this feature are, as always, very welcome. Until next time, 73 and good listening.